Real Clothes

by Makimura Sakura

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WingInGlide.com

槇村さとる
MAKIMURA SATORU

Madame Coco Chanel once said,
"The worst is when things don't go
well between you and the one
you're together with."

Be it your friends, between lovers,
colleagues, or between husbands
and wives...

If things don't go well,
all you'll do is drift apart

And even if things do go well,
people die...

Team Tabuchi, who fit together
the best (?) is my dream.

YOU

For the latest information check out
http://blog.shueisha.net/you/

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QC QUEEN'S COMICS YOU

YOU QUEEN'S COMICS

Real Clothes リアル・クローズ 8

Makimura Satoru

Real Clothes 8

リアル・クローズ

槇村さとる

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集英社

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Miki-sama leaves Echizenya...?!
The effects of the merger have shaken the internal offices of Echizenya.
In the midst of this, Kinue and company have a new task!!

Miki-sama, who was a mental support for Kinue, is leaving Echizenya. Kinue, still in shock over the departure, has been assigned a new task. To resuscitate the ladies fashion department at the long-standing Matsukoshi Department store, the other party in the company merger! After scouting out Matsukoshi, Kinue is sent into a blind daze by the transformation of the ladies fashion floor, a cave of intense old-world indoctrination...

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Makimura Satoru

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Do Da Dancin'! Ballet Essence

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QUEEN'S COMICS

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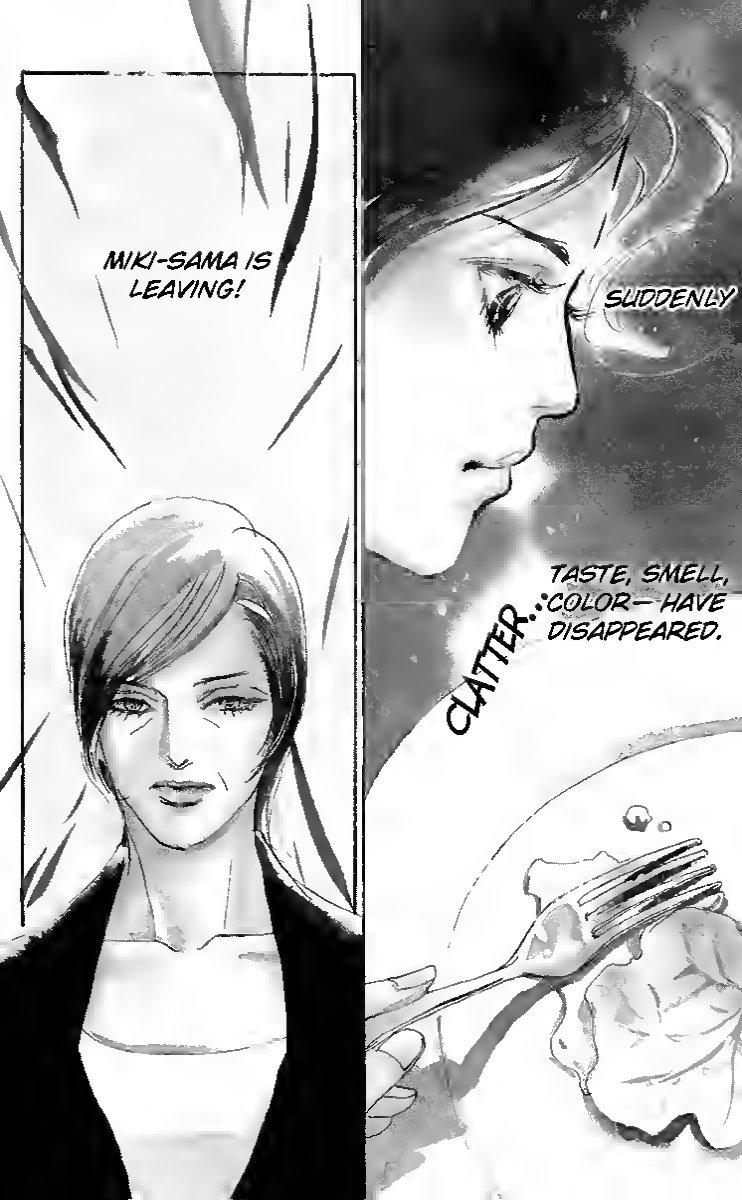
Real Clothes

Chapter 54


MIKI-SAMA IS LEAVING!
SUDDENLY
TASTE, SMELL, COLOR— HAVE DISAPPEARED.
CLATTER...

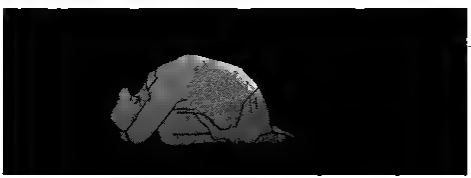
PÉCHÉ MIGNON WILL BE CLOSED DOWN.
I'LL GO WITH MIKI-SAMA...
NO!! I DON'T WANT HER TO GO!!
!!

UGH, NO WAY.
CAPE
CAPE
I DON'T WANNA! IMPOSSIBLE— NO NO NO!
WHEN DEPARTMENT STORES COME OUT OF THE STORM, THEN A NEW PÉCHÉ MIGNON WILL BE NEEDED.
THAT'S WHAT YOU'LL MAKE.
I DON'T THINK THAT THIS RECESSION WILL GO ON FOREVER.
DON'T CRY
IT'S A SMALL WORLD IN THIS BUSINESS. AS LONG AS YOU ARE NEAR WESTERN CLOTHES,
I'LL BE NEARBY.
SNERK!
IT'S DIFFERENT.
YOU'RE WRONG!
NOT THAT!!

THE TIME I HAVE LEFT IS BRIEF.
DO WHAT YOU WANT WITH ALL YOUR HEART.
YOU HAVE TIME.
SQUEEZE
NO MATTER WHAT CHALLENGE, SUCCESS, OR FAILURE, IT WILL ALL BECOME A SOURCE OF ENCOURAGEMENT.
NOW THEN, LET GO OF THIS OLD WOMAN'S HAND.

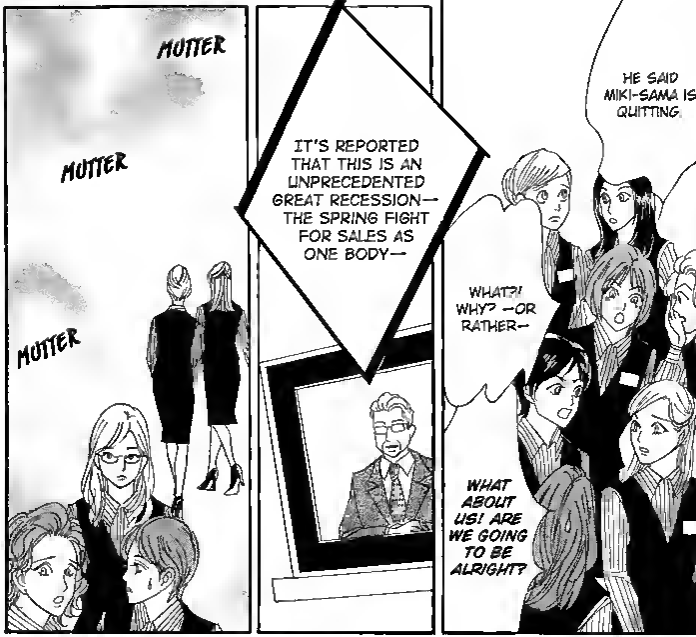
GO.

SHUT

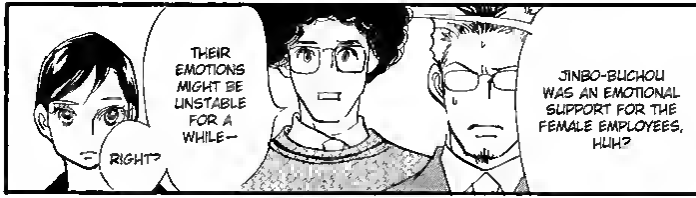


WHENEVER I BLUNDERED, OR GOT TIRED, OR MADE ENEMIES, OR HAD MISUNDERSTANDINGS—
MIKI-SAMA WAS THERE FOR ME

MIKI-SAMA WAS MY BEACON.
NO MATTER HOW SCARY SHE WAS, OR IF SHE SEEMED ABOUT TO SCOLD ME, WHEN SHE CAME NEAR I BREATHED A SIGH OF RELIEF.
MORNING GREETING!
SMELLING NICE, I FELT LIKE SHE WAS TELLING ME, "IT WILL BE ALRIGHT," WITH HER QUIET VOICE


MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
IT'S REPORTED THAT THIS IS AN UNPRECEDENTED GREAT RECESSION— THE SPRING FIGHT FOR SALES AS ONE BODY—
HE SAID MIKI-SAMA IS QUITTING.
WHAT?! WHY? —OR RATHER—
WHAT ABOUT US! ARE WE GOING TO BE ALRIGHT?

EVEN THOSE WHO BAD-MOUTHED HER— WHY ARE THEY FREAKING OUT?
I DON'T GET WOMEN.


THEIR EMOTIONS MIGHT BE UNSTABLE FOR A WHILE—
RIGHT?
JINBO-BUCHOU WAS AN EMOTIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE FEMALE EMPLOYEES, HUH?

WHY DON'T WE GO EXPLORE MATSUKOSHI DEPARTMENT STORES TODAY?
EH?
ONCE WE'VE MERGED, WON'T WE HAVE MORE THINGS TO DO?
EVERYONE WILL BE QUICK TO TACKLE THEIR NEW JOBS, SO
WE HAVE TO LOOK FORWARD...

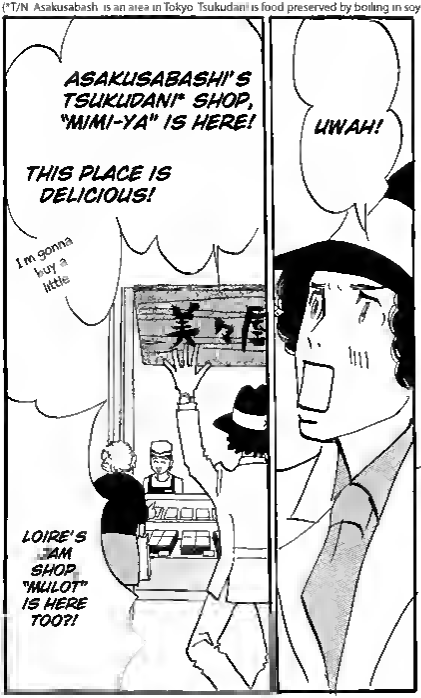
HEART BEAT!
MIKI-SAMA WILL BE WATCHING FROM AFAR
I'LL WORK..
SO THAT SHE WON'T THINK, "WHAT ARE THEY DOING?!"
A smudge..
SQUEAK!
1+1=3
Wo-ki

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DRESSED AS—
A DETECTIVE STORY?
TOP GUN?
HEY, HEY— WE'RE CONSPICUOUS, THE THREE OF US
LET'S GO!
AUDREY!!
AMANO-SAN, "WHAT'S YOUR NAME?"

MATSUKOSH
B-1
FOOD/MEDICINE

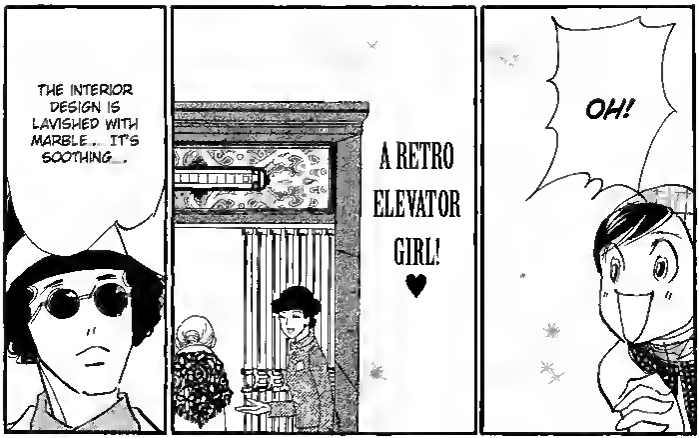
IT'S PACKED WITH CUSTOMERS!
EEK—!

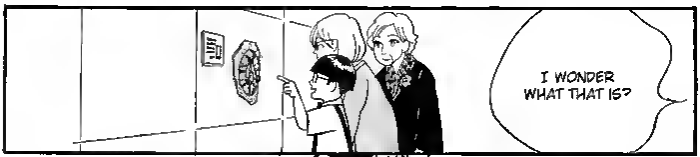
(*T/N Asakusabashi is an area in Tokyo. Tsukudani is food preserved by boiling in soy sauce.)


ASAKUSABASHI'S TSUKUDANI* SHOP, "MIMI-YA" IS HERE!
THIS PLACE IS DELICIOUS!
I'm gonna buy a little
LOIRE'S JAM SHOP, "MULOT" IS HERE TOO?!
UWAH!

(*T/N This is a well known Japanese cake shop/brand.)

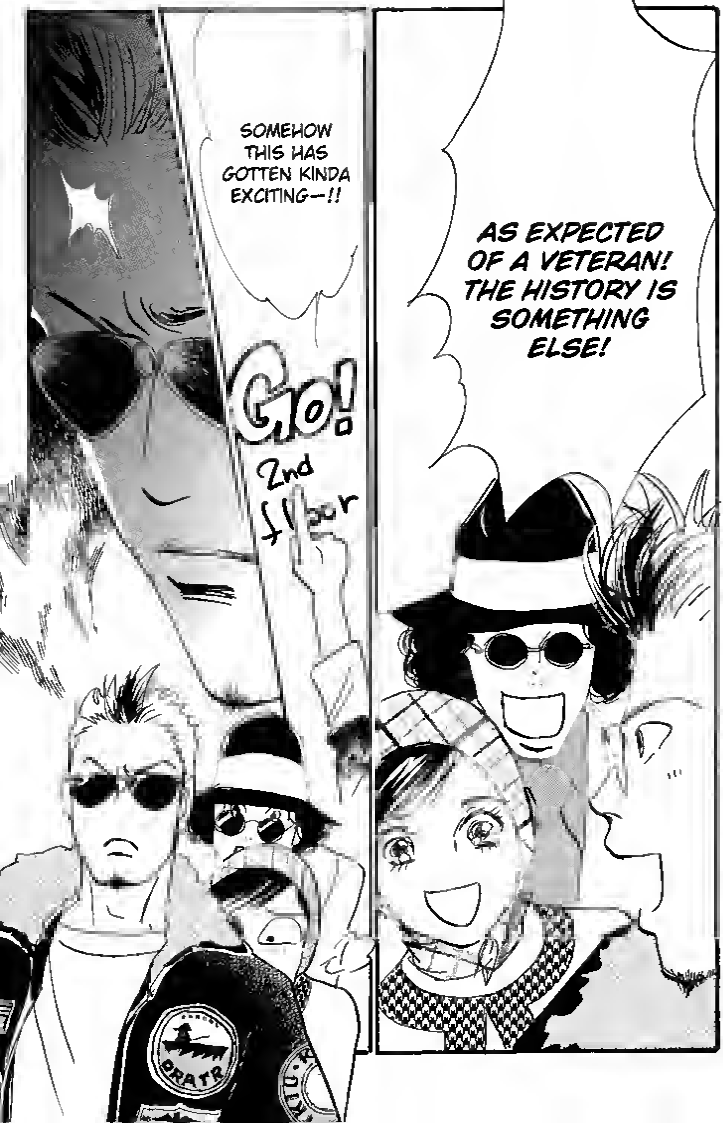
90% ARE MATRONLY...
THERE ARE SO MANY REFINED HOUSEWIVES~!
1ST FLOOR
EXQUISITE



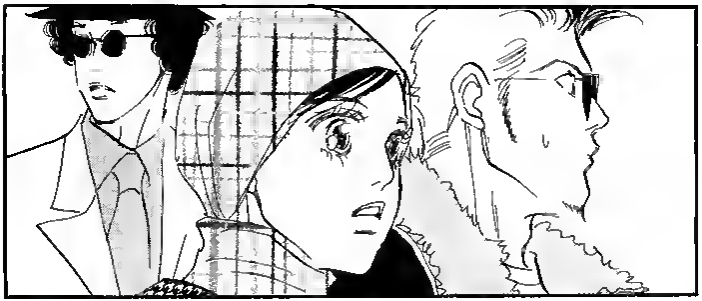


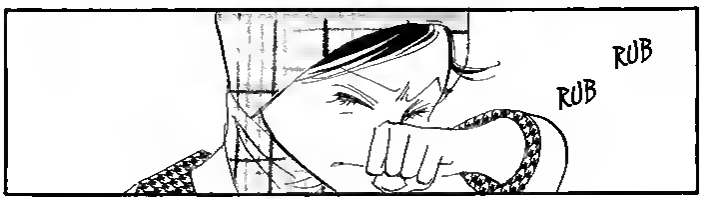
WHAT'S THIS? "THE MARBLE ON THIS FLOOR IS PRODUCED IN ITALY.. THE AMMONITE IS DOMESTIC, OF THE HIGHEST GRADE... IT WAS CONSTRUCTED IN SHOWA 10*..
OH MY GOD—!! AMMONITE!!

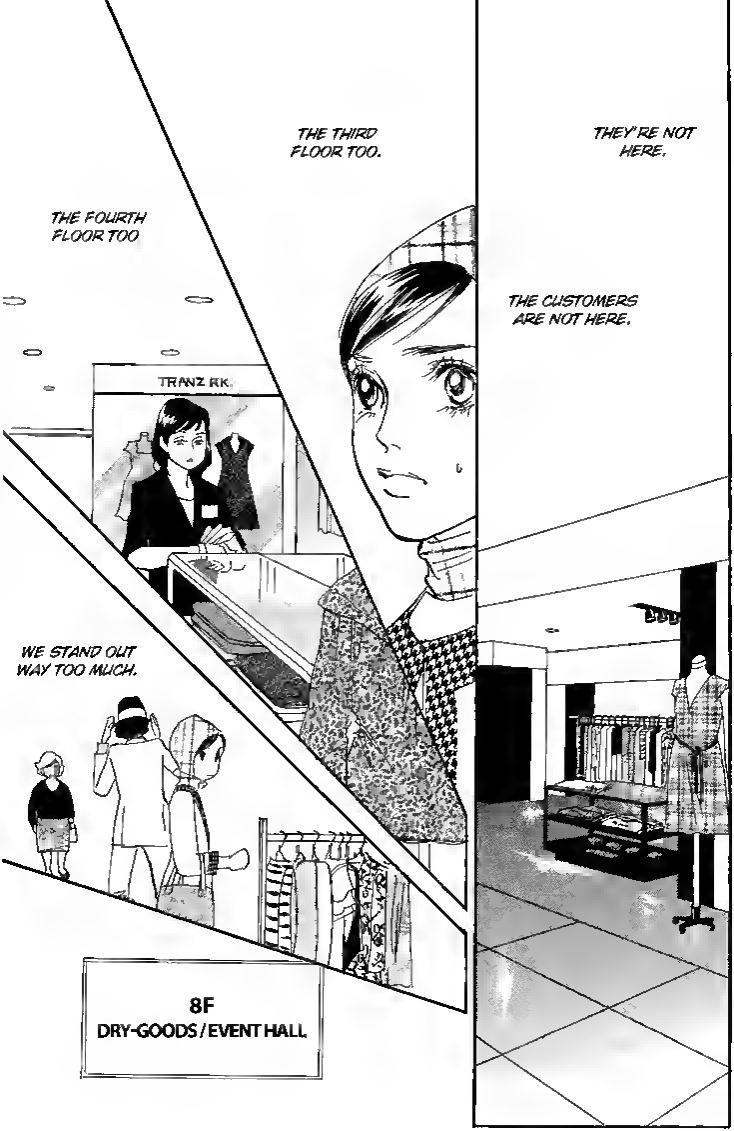
(*T/N: Japan still uses the reigns of their emperors to mark the years. Showa year 10 refers to 1935.)


AS EXPECTED OF A VETERAN! THE HISTORY IS SOMETHING ELSE!
SOMEHOW THIS HAS GOTTEN KINDA EXCITING—!!
GO!
2nd floor

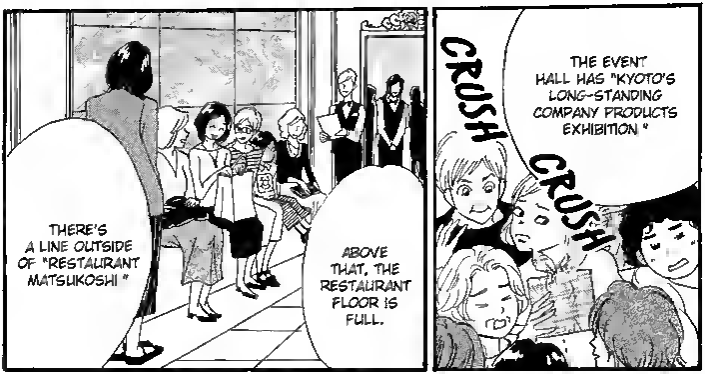
DE
SERTED!




RUB
RUB

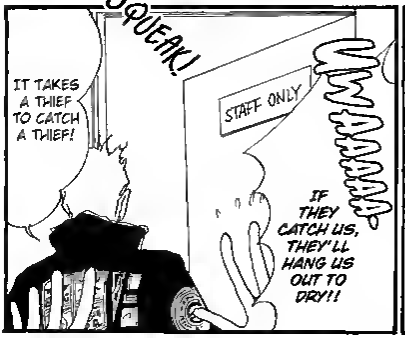

THE THIRD FLOOR TOO.
THEY'RE NOT HERE.
THE FOURTH FLOOR TOO
THE CUSTOMERS ARE NOT HERE.
TRANZ RK.
WE STAND OUT WAY TOO MUCH.
8F
DRY-GOODS / EVENT HALL

IT'S AN "ARTISTS' SHOWCASE OF IMPORTANT INTANGIBLE CULTURAL ASSETS."
YOU CAN'T DESCRIBE THE DRY-GOODS AS ANYTHING BUT PRAISEWORTHY


THERE'S A LINE OUTSIDE OF "RESTAURANT MATSUKOSHI"
ABOVE THAT, THE RESTAURANT FLOOR IS FULL.
CRUSH
CRUSH
THE EVENT HALL HAS "KYOTO'S LONG-STANDING COMPANY PRODUCTS EXHIBITION."

THAT LEAVES THE ROOF
屋上

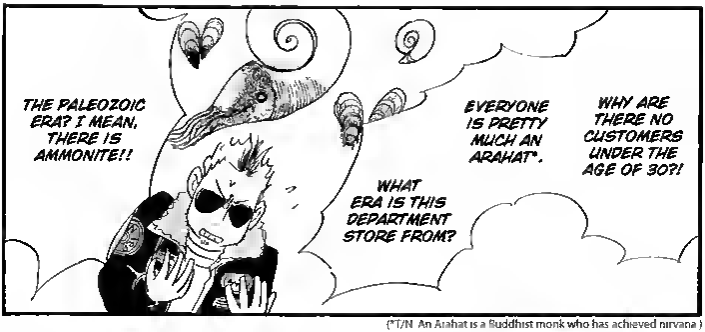
屋上プレイランドは
閉鎖中です
THE ROOF PLAYLAND IS CLOSED


SQUEAK!
IT TAKES A THIEF TO CATCH A THIEF!
STAFF ONLY
UWAAAAAP
IF THEY CATCH US, THEY'LL HANG US OUT TO DRY!!

LET'S GO UP BY A DIFFERENT ROUTE
TORU
BOSS?

THERE'S SUCH A THRILL~
G'DDAY!
CLICK!
BREEZE
MATSUKOSHI
松越プレイランド

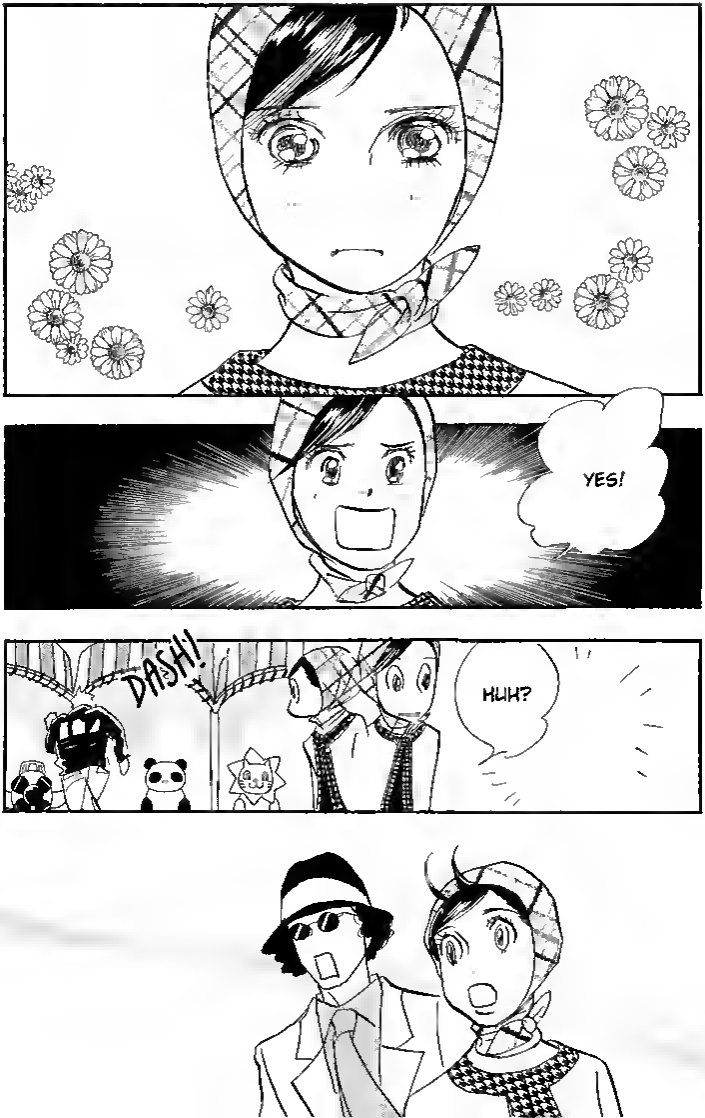
WHAT'S THIS!
ARE YOU SCREWING WITH ME—!!
SH—! SH—!
WHAT'S THE HELL IS WITH THIS SHOP!
WHY IS THAT MOST IMPORTANT PART, THE LADIES' CLOTHES, SO UNFASHIONABLE?!
LOCKED UP
FULL
EMPTY
FULL
WIDE MAP OF MATSUKOSHI
WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT BESIDES THE BASEMENT AND THE DRY-GOODS AND THE EVENTS, THERE ARE NO PEOPLE HERE?!

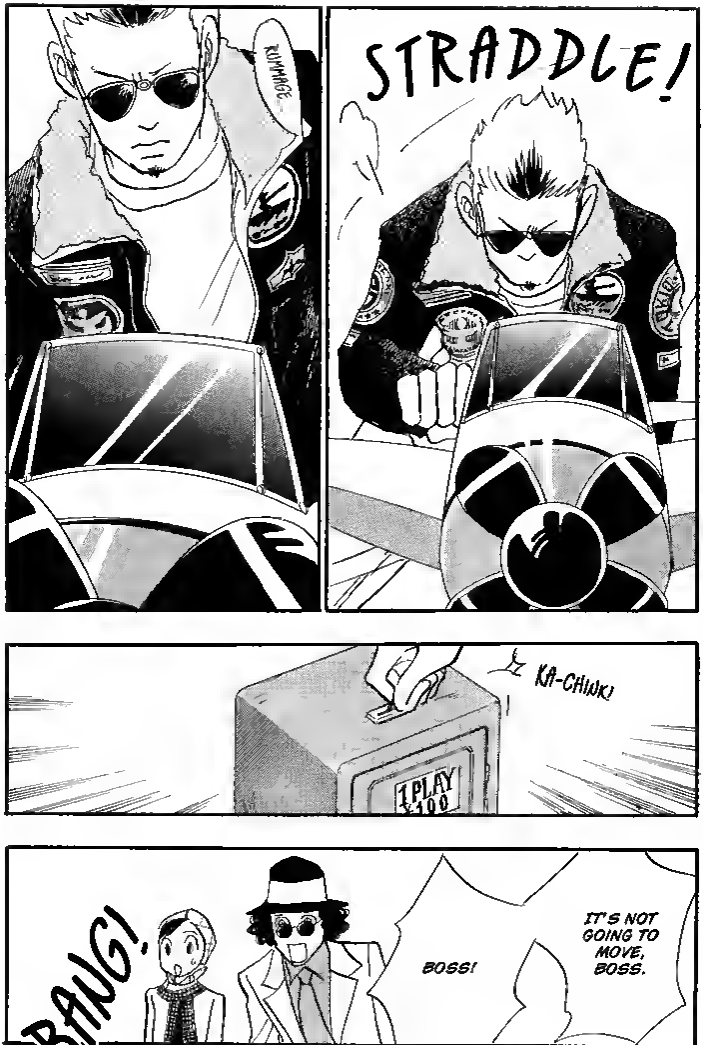

THE PALEOZOIC ERA? I MEAN, THERE IS AMMONITE!!
WHAT ERA IS THIS DEPARTMENT STORE FROM?
EVERYONE IS PRETTY MUCH AN ARAHAT*.
WHY ARE THERE NO CUSTOMERS UNDER THE AGE OF 30?!

(*T/N An Arahat is a Buddhist monk who has achieved nirvana.)

SMACK!
GASP!
MUMBLE
MUMBLE
WHAT SHOULD...
IF IT WERE MIKI-S/M—
OUCH~

STAND ON YOUR OWN TWO FEET
THAT'S RIGHT...
IF YOU RELY ON SOMEONE OTHER THAN YOURSELF, WHEN YOU'RE LOST, IT WILL BE YOUR DOWNFALL
THINK WITH YOUR OWN HEAD. FEEL WITH YOUR OWN HEART. THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE GOOD AT.


YES!
DASH!
HUH?


RUMMAGE...
STRADDLE!
KA-CHUNK!
1 PLAY
100
BANG!
BOSS!
IT'S NOT GOING TO MOVE, BOSS.

BANG!
BANG!
BANG!

VWHOOSH
I WILL STAND THIS STORE BACK ON ITS FEET!
BANG!
BANG!
I WILL RESURRECT THIS STORE WITH MY DEPARTMENT STORE LOVE!

DEPARTMENT STORE LOVE?!
YOUR WORDS ARE RATHER REPREHENSIBLE.

NOW THEN, DOESN'T IT SEEM AS IF YOU'RE IMPLYING THAT OUR STORE IS DYING?
TABUCHI YUUSAKU-SAMA OF ECHIZENYA'S MAIN SHINJUKU STORE?
青空駅
Cat outta the bag?
I AM INAMURA OF THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT.
SMILE
SMILE
I AM MATSUKOSHI'S LADIES FASHION DEPARTMENT HEAD, TAWARAYA

◆End of Chapter 54◆

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WingItAllTeam

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Chapter 55

FOLLOWING TRADITIONS WILL PREVAIL AS OUR LEGACY.
BANG!
I'M TABUCHI, ECHIZENYA PRODUCTS DEPARTMENT.
I'm Shirakawa.
I'm Amano
PARDON US FOR OUR UNANNOUNCED VISIT.

CLARE!
I WANT TO GO TO THE BUYERS' DEPARTMENT LIKE THIS AND HAVE A TALK. WOULD YOU SHOW US THE WAY?
SINCE WE'VE BEEN FOUND OUT, I'D RATHER HURRY UP WITH IT
AI-YAI-YAI...
THIS IS ALL VERY SUDDEN, AFTER ALL...
THAT'S A BIT...
IF YOU'D LIKE, HOW DOES IT SOUND TO HAVE A LIGHT MEAL OVER AT "RESTAURANT MATSUKOSHI"?
IF YOU'D PREFER, I WOULD BE HAPPY TO SPEAK WITH YOU ABOUT ANYTHING YOU'D LIKE
RIGHT?

WE'RE FINISHED FOR THE DAY...
DON'T!
TOY
POOH
WHEN THE MERGER BECOMES OFFICIAL, THEN YOU MAY ENTER ANYWHERE.
SINCE THEN WE'LL BE ONE COMPANY...
HA HA HA
YES?
UM...

I'M SORRY FOR TAKING UP SO MUCH OF YOUR TIME IN LEAVING.
THANK YOU FOR COMING TO MATSUKOSHI DEPARTMENT STORE TODAY.
in a line
WE WILL AWAIT YOUR RETURN

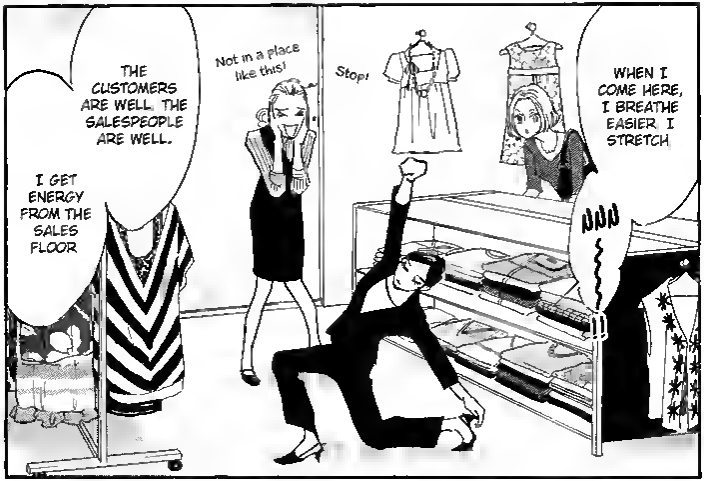
HOW FRIVOLOUS.
HE'S FAR TOO DULL.
BOSS.
HEY, BOSS
WHY DON'T WE GO BUY A SANDWICH DOWNSTAIRS?
Niko..
No!

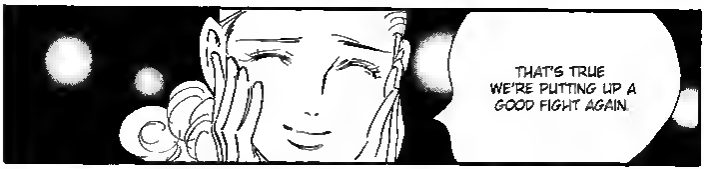
HEY, HEY,
YOU KNOW, WHEN WE ACTUALLY DO MERGE?
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO US?
ECHIZEN
EH— IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH US. PERSONNEL CUTS WILL BE ON MATSUKOSHI'S SIDE, WON'T THEY?
THERE MIGHT NOT BE RESTRUCTURING HERE, BUT
THERE MIGHT BE SOME RELOCATION.
WHA
?!
HEY NOW~!
HURRY UP WITH THE PREPARATIONS! THE MEETING IS STARTING!
YES, MA'AM!

IN ALL OF JAPAN, ONLY WE PURCHASED PATRICE'S LINE ECHIZENYA EXCLUSIVELY.
ONCE YOU TRY IT ON, YOU'LL UNDERSTAND ITS LOVELINESS IN A HEARTBEAT. THE TEXTURE IS AMAZING!
NEXT IS THE URGENT ARRIVAL OF PATRICE SMILE!
HE'S HUGELY POPULAR WITH THE FASHIONABLE PEOPLE OF PARIS! THE DESIGNER HIMSELF IS A PERSON SENSITIVE OF HIS JAPANOPHILIA.
UM~, THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE~
WHISPER WHISPER
IF WE WORK AS MUCH AS AMANO-SAN THE COMPANY WOULDN'T LET US GO, HUH~
PATRICE SMILE IS IN YOUR CARE.
GO AHEAD AND PULL THE CUSTOMERS INTO THE FITTING ROOMS FOR THESE, PLEASE~! ♡

WHAT?
THAT WAS A DEEP SIGH
SIGHhhh
The Space
Sorry
AND LIKE THIS, THEY WON'T SELL ANYTHING AND BECOME DEPRESSED.
EVERYONE'S SO NERVOUS, THEY CAN'T KEEP THEIR FEET ON THE GROUND
WHERE'S RYOU-SAN? COMING IN LATER?
SHE'S HELPING WITH THE CLOSING SALE FOR PÊCHÉ MIGNON ON THE 4TH FLOOR
AND RYOU-SAN SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO DO THAT
Her sense of atmosphere surpasses all!
SO PÊCHÉ MIGNON REALLY IS CLOSING

SINCE HIGH-PRICED PRODUCTS ARE UNRELIABLE,
THE RECESSION HAS BECOME AN EXCUSE TO CLOSE IT
AND ABOVE ALL THAT
A MERGER AT THIS PERIOD OF TIME TAKES MONEY...
IT'S THE WORST POSSIBLE TIMING FOR US AS WELL.
HAH!
EH?!
TOE TOUCH


THE CUSTOMERS ARE WELL. THE SALESPEOPLE ARE WELL.
I GET ENERGY FROM THE SALES FLOOR
Not in a place like this!
Stop!
WHEN I COME HERE, I BREATHE EASIER. I STRETCH.


THAT'S TRUE. WE'RE PUTTING UP A GOOD FIGHT AGAIN.

PEOPLE WILL COME TO PURCHASE CLOTHES THAT EXCITE THEM

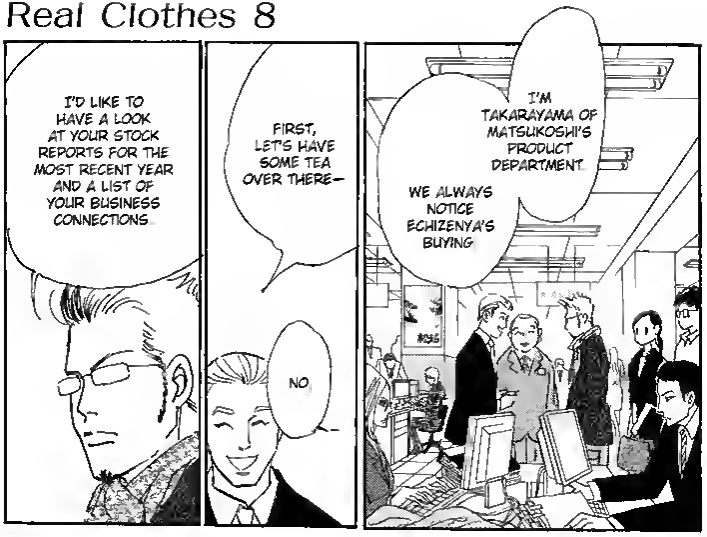
I WAS THE ONE WHO TAPPED YOU.
THINKING WITH YOUR OWN HEAD IS WHAT YOU'RE GOOD AT, THOUGH.
KNOCK KNOCK
SOMEONE IS WATCHING OVER ME.
I'M TRUSTING IT TO YOU!
MAKE IT HAPPEN!
The Space
I'M GOING TO GO TO SUPPORT PÉCHÉ MIGNON
GOOD LUCK—

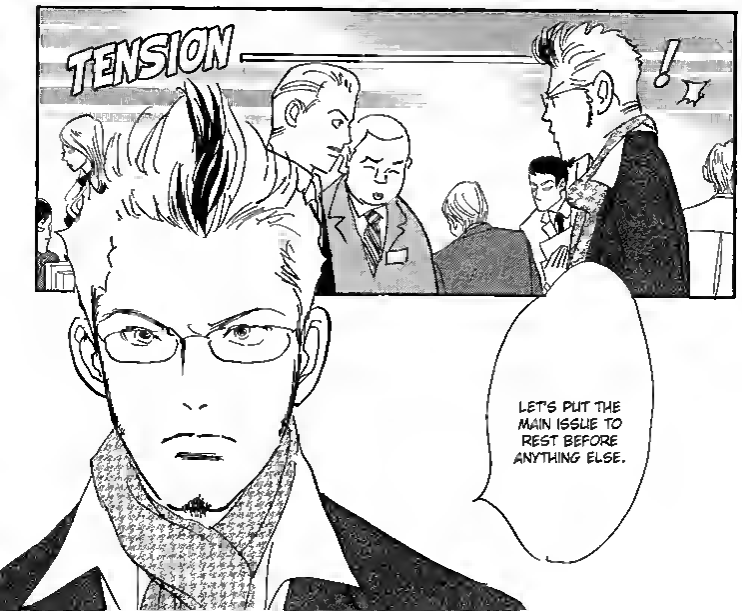
I'LL DISCOVER A SIDE TO MYSELF THAT I DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT
THAT'S WHY I'LL DO MY BEST

Echizenya Matsukoshi MERGER

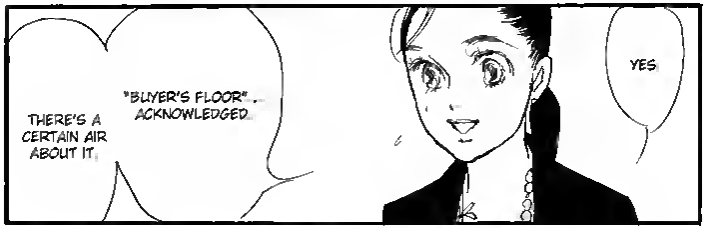
A BOAT SENT INTO THE STORMY SEAS OF THE RECESSION

THE BIRTH OF A MEGA-DEPARTMENT STORE


I'M TAKARAYAMA OF MATSUKOSHI'S PRODUCT DEPARTMENT.
WE ALWAYS NOTICE ECHIZENYA'S BUYING.
FIRST, LET'S HAVE SOME TEA OVER THERE—
NO.
I'D LIKE TO HAVE A LOOK AT YOUR STOCK REPORTS FOR THE MOST RECENT YEAR AND A LIST OF YOUR BUSINESS CONNECTIONS.


TENSION
!
LET'S PUT THE MAIN ISSUE TO REST BEFORE ANYTHING ELSE.

I'LL GUIDE YOU.
I... I CAME TO OBSERVE THE SALES FLOOR.
AN AMAZING BARRIER!
Ah...
INAMURA-SAN, GOOD MORNING.
YOU HAVE AN INCREDIBLE VOICE TODAY AS WELL. YOUR PRONUNCIATION AND RECITATION ARE GOOD.
.....
AND ALSO. BECAUSE IT IS FUNDAMENTAL TO SERVING CUSTOMERS.



THIS IS A DEPARTMENT STORE OF LONG-STANDING THAT PROTECTS TRADITIONS AND STATUS.
THIS STORE WAS ESTABLISHED IN TENPOU 5*. IT WAS TRANSFERRED TO THIS LAND FOR THE PAST 70 YEARS

(*T/N: The era of Tenpou, year 5 corresponds to 1834.)

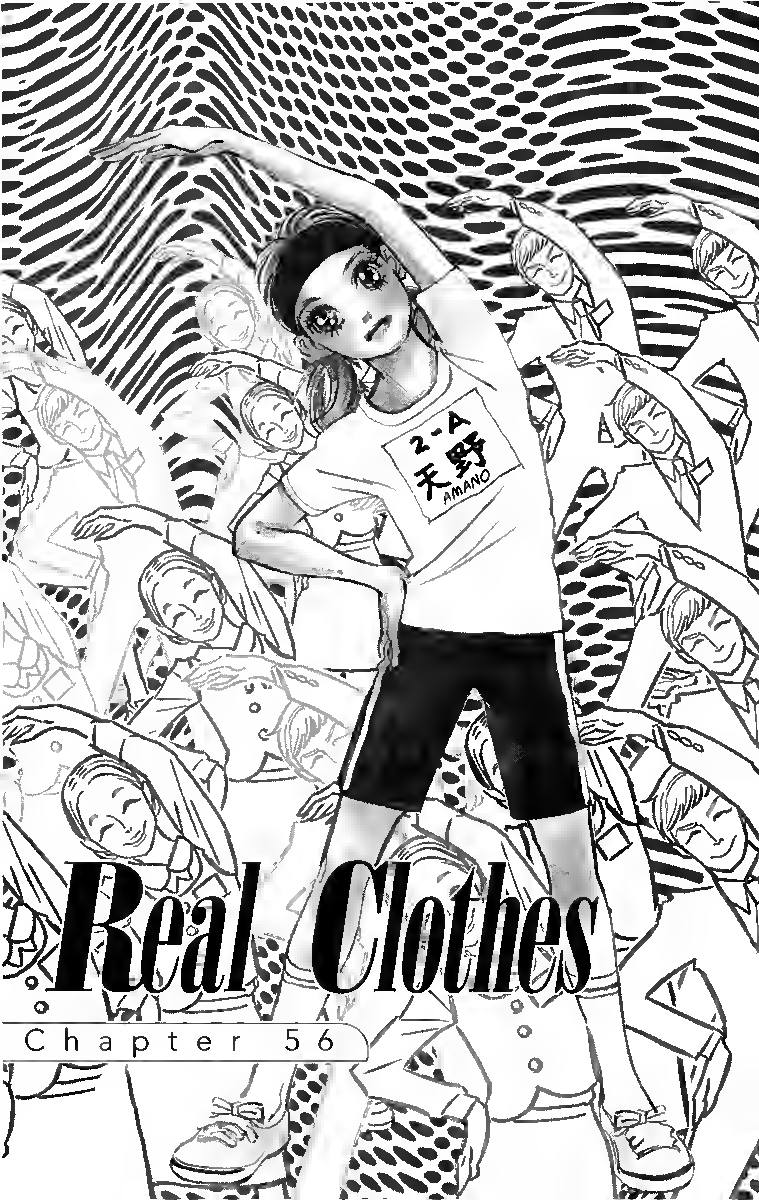
FIRST~! HIGH QUALITY ITEMS SHALL SELL FOR LOW PRICES~! AND BOTH THE STORE AND CUSTOMER SHALL SEEK TO GAIN PROFIT—!
COMPANY POLICY—!!
HIGH QUALITY ITEMS~
JUMP!!
SHALL SELL FOR LOW PRICES~!!

(*T/N Japan has exercise programs over the radio in the morning for people to listen and follow as a part of the national concern for good health)

禁

End of Chapter 55

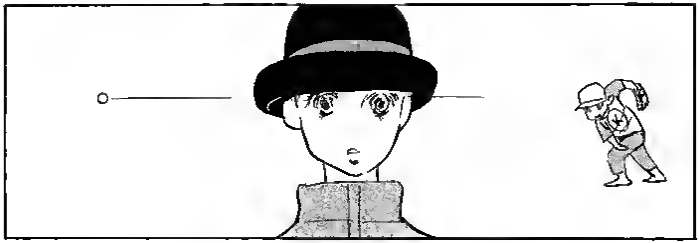
Real Clothes
by Makimura Satoru
Brought to you by MagicalCats.com
Translated by : Quixoticexile
Proof-read by : Cyber-3
Cleaned by : Paralda
Typeset by : In Valen's Name
QC by : Mamis
http://tinyurl.com/strawberry-milk-cake-recipe



Real Clothes

Chapter 56

ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
SPRAY
CLICK
I'M SORRY FOR WORRYING YOU. IT'S BEEN TEN YEARS SINCE I DID RADIO EXERCISES, SO I GOT A LITTLE DIZZY
I'M USUALLY NOT LIKE THIS. I COME FROM SPORTS CLUBS, YOU KNOW?



AT 3 IN THE AFTERNOON, THERE'S "RADIO EXERCISES #2"...!
RADIO EXERCISES ARE DONE IN CONSIDERATION THAT THE EMPLOYEE'S HEALTH IS FIRST AND FOREMOST, WE HAVEN'T MISSED A SINGLE DAY SINCE SHOWA 36*!

(*T/N 1961)

WELL, LET US GO TO THE BUYER'S FLOOR
REPLY BACK! ASK ME ABOUT IT!
THAT'S NOT HOW YOU SHOULD RESPOND! IT SHOULD BE "WHAT CLUBS WERE YOU IN?"

AH~ THERE ARE FEW CUSTOMERS TODAY, TOO.
MOMO
Depressing
THE LADIES FASHION DEPARTMENT UNDERWENT A HUGE RE-STRUCTURING IN 2003
SO THAT WE COULD RECEIVE THE ARRIVAL OF A YOUNGER CLASS..
I WONDER WHAT IT IS? THEY HAVE THE TYPICAL BRANDS HERE, EVEN.
Maybe it's a bit plain?
AND IT'S NOT THAT THE CLOTHES IN THE DISPLAYS ARE THAT UGLY...

THAT'S TRUE
RIGHT?!
IT ALSO MULTIPLIES THE EXAMPLES OF COORDINATION
IT'LL MULTIPLY THE NUMBER OF OUTFITS YOU HAVE ON DISPLAY!
WHAT IF WE DRESSED THE SALES CLERKS IN THESE CLOTHES AND MADE THEM FASHIONABLE?
EH?
AN AUNTIE WITH A UNIFORM AND SCARY EYES IS RATHER...
AH...
DON'T CUSTOMERS WISH TO CONSULT WITH COOL PEOPLE?
...THAT'S TRUE.
Not like this brown shirt— sorry
IT'S ALRIGHT TO BRING OUT MORE OF A FASHIONABLE FEELING WHEN COORDINATING FOR WOMEN IN THEIR 40S OR 50S
NO MATTER HOW MANY YEARS GO BY, A COOL PERSON IS COOL
THAT'S TRUE
AH... YES...

AND THEN!
I WANT TO BUST THE OTHERS OUT OF THEIR MORE CONSERVATIVE RUT! —DON'T YOU HAVE THE SAME WISH?!
HOW ABOUT A ROCK'N'ROLL MIDDLE-AGED PERSON?!
UH!
NO?!
BUT IF WE DON'T TRY IT, WE'LL NEVER KNOW.
LET'S TRY TO PUT OUT A PLAN FOR A MIDDLE-AGED ROCK-N-ROLLER!!
THE 1940S/50S ROCK SPIRIT OKAY?
WOULDN'T IT BE GOOD FOR WEARING AROUND THE HOUSE?
LIKE A BLOOD-STAINED T-SHIRT.
WELL?
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
YOU TRY IT TOO!

I'M ENVIOUS
HUH?
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?
..HUH?!!
NEXT, WE MOVE ON TO OUR LINGERIE DEPARTMENT
TOKU
SHE'S IGNORING ME?!
EVEN THOUGH I ASKED FOR HER OPINION!
HELLO~?!!

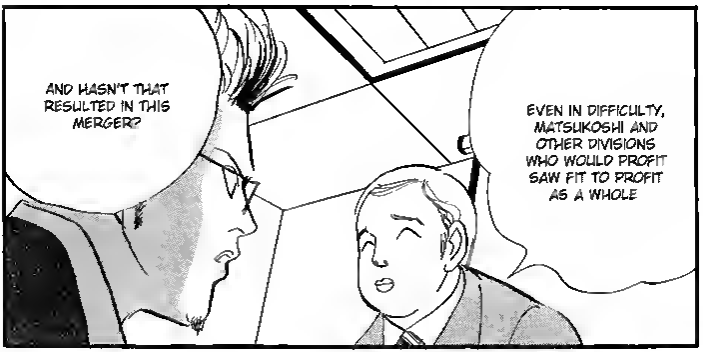
CHICK
DELE
SI
LENCE
I'M GOING TO PUT THIS BLUNTLY.
PLEASE GIVE YOUR UNRESERVED OPINION.

CRACKLE
CRACKLE
THERE ARE SOME LABELS THAT SUPPLY CLOTHES THAT HAVE NO CONNECTION TO ANY SORT OF PROFIT
"MARUOKA" IS AT THE HEAD OF A LIST OF 30 LABELS.
FIRST, LET'S CUT THEM LOOSE

YES
TABUCHI-SAN..

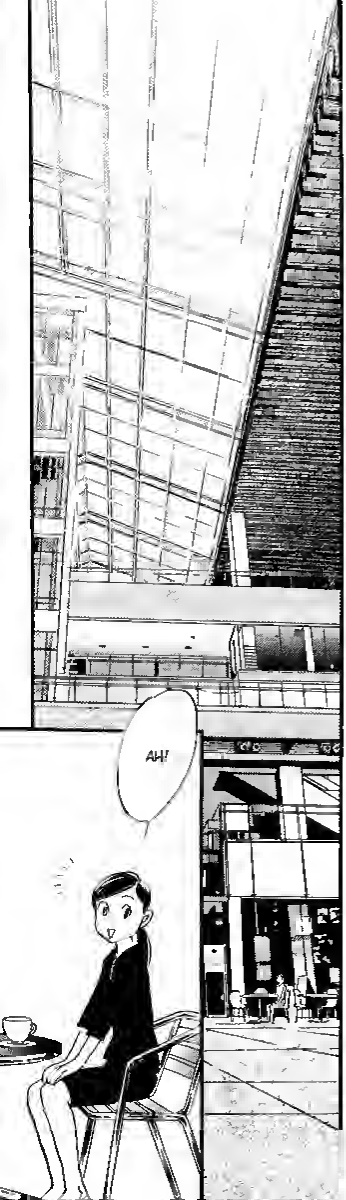
THE 30 COMPANIES THAT YOU'VE SAID YOU'LL "CUT" ARE ONES WHO CONTINUALLY SUPPORTED MATSUKOSHI FOR A LONG PERIOD. THOSE BONDS RUN DEEP.
OUR RECENT SALES ARE NOT EVERYTHING

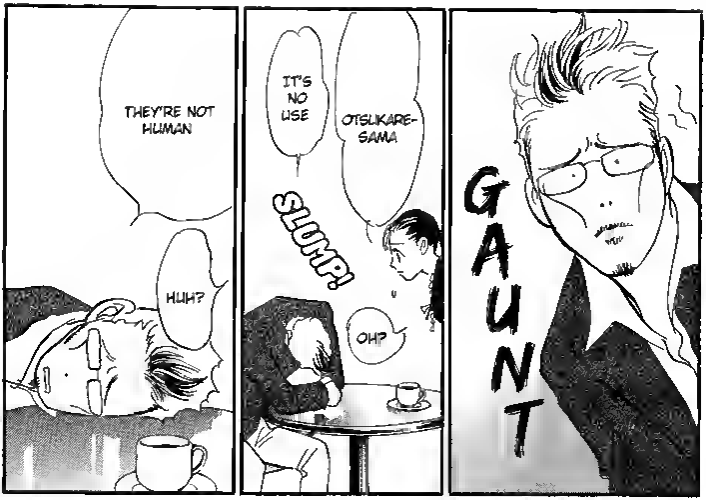
A FAMILY-WIDE RELATIONSHIP— THAT IS THE STYLE OF "MATSUKOSHI."
WE CAN'T SIMPLY STEAL AWAY THEIR JOBS AND THEIR EMPLOYEES' LIVELIHOODS.
DO YOU FEEL YOUR TRUE MOTIVES ARE FOR THE SOLVENCY OF THOSE LABELS?

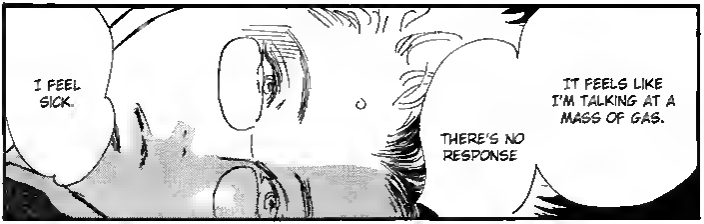

AND HASN'T THAT RESULTED IN THIS MERGER?
EVEN IN DIFFICULTY, MATSUKOSHI AND OTHER DIVISIONS WHO WOULD PROFIT SAW FIT TO PROFIT AS A WHOLE

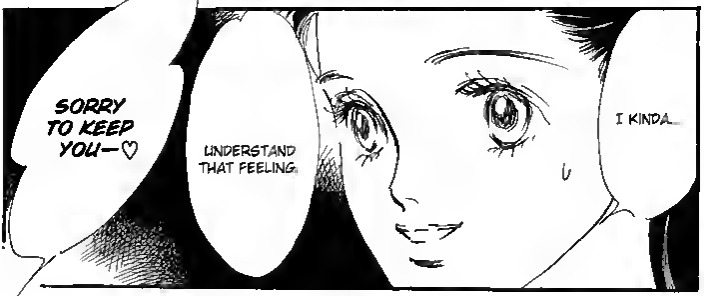
THE PRESENT MATSUKOSHI ONLY SEES THE LABELS— YOU'RE NOT LOOKING AT THE CUSTOMERS
EVERY FLOOR FULL OF CUSTOMERS! THAT IS THE STATE A DEPARTMENT STORE SHOULD HAVE.
HOW SHOULD WE CONSIDER THIS, TAWARAYA-SAN?
THAT WOULD BE
EXACTLY AS I SAID JUST NOW.

TAWARAYA-SAN
I'M ASKING FOR YOUR OPINION, NOT YOUR PUBLIC STANCE
DO YOU SERIOUSLY HAVE ANY DESIRE TO INNOVATE?

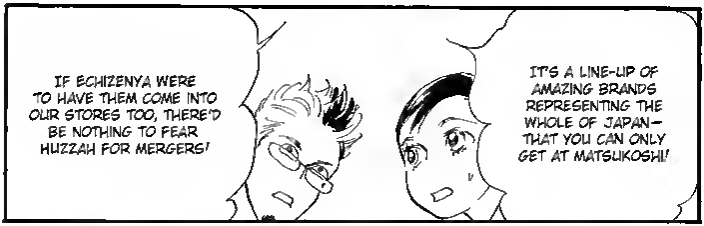

ERGH
AH!

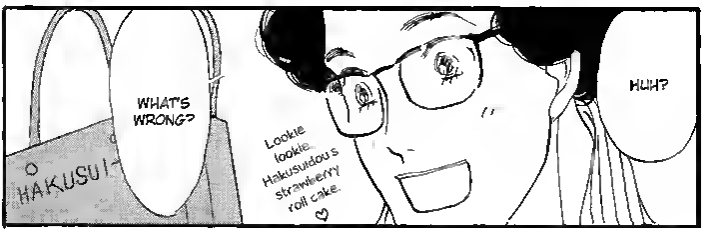

THEY'RE NOT HUMAN
HUH?
IT'S NO USE
OTSUKARE-SAMA
SLUMP!
OH?
GAUNT

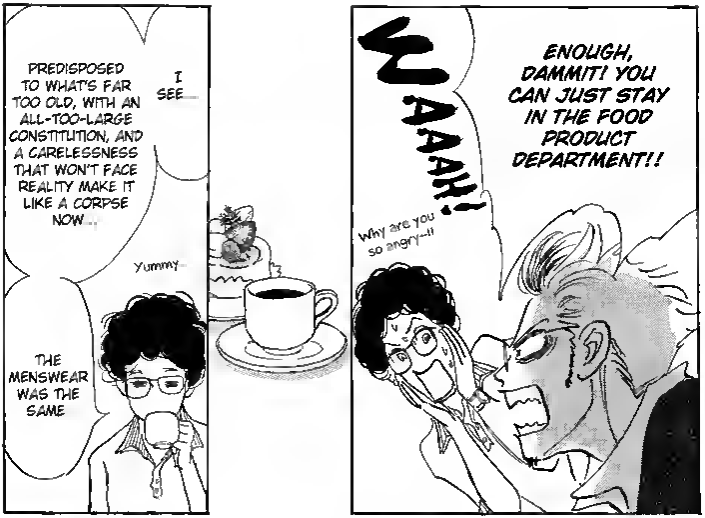

I FEEL SICK.
THERE'S NO RESPONSE
IT FEELS LIKE I'M TALKING AT A MASS OF GAS.


SORRY TO KEEP YOU—♡
UNDERSTAND THAT FEELING.
I KINDA

MATSUKOSHI, TRES BIEN!
THE BASEMENT FOOD FLOOR TRULY IS AMAZING AFTER ALL!!
モッツァレラカプレ
Mozzarella Caprese
La-
Di-
Da
HAKUSUI


IF ECHIZENYA WERE TO HAVE THEM COME INTO OUR STORES TOO, THERE'D BE NOTHING TO FEAR HUZZAH FOR MERGERS!
IT'S A LINE-UP OF AMAZING BRANDS REPRESENTING THE WHOLE OF JAPAN— THAT YOU CAN ONLY GET AT MATSUKOSHI!


WHAT'S WRONG?
HAKUSUI
Lookie lookie. Hakusuidou's Strawberry roll cake.
HUH?

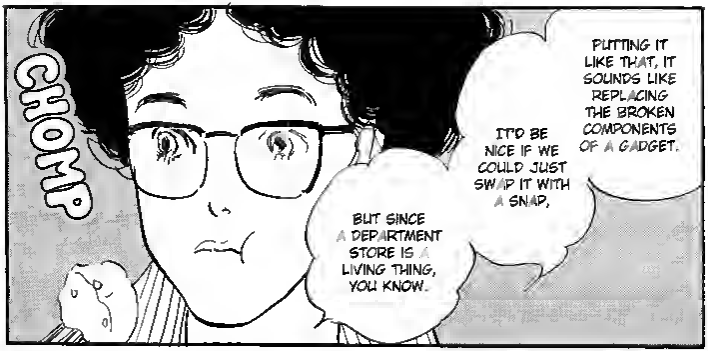

I SEE...
PREDISPOSED TO WHAT'S FAR TOO OLD, WITH AN ALL-TOO-LARGE CONSTITUTION, AND A CARELESSNESS THAT WON'T FACE REALITY MAKE IT LIKE A CORPSE NOW...
Yummy
THE MENSWEAR WAS THE SAME
WAAH!
ENOUGH, DAMMIT! YOU CAN JUST STAY IN THE FOOD PRODUCT DEPARTMENT!!
Why are you so angry--!!

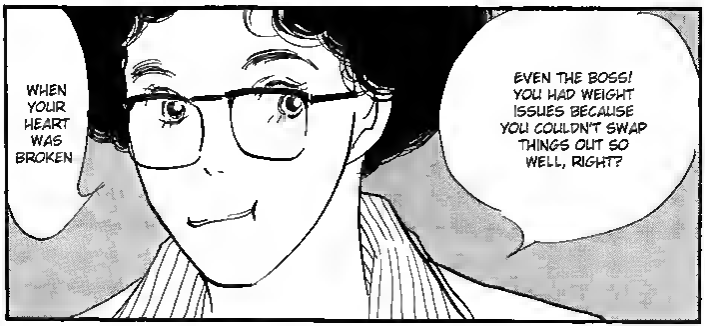
I'LL CUT THEM!
THOSE OPINION-LESS BASTARDS CAN GO AHEAD AND IGNORE ME.
I'LL CUT THEM.

OH!
DON'T!
A BIG HATCHET WILL FALL...
THEY'LL PROTECT THEIR TRADITIONS AND THEN CUSTOMERS WILL DESERT THEM!
THEY HAVE NO DEPARTMENT STORE LOVE!!

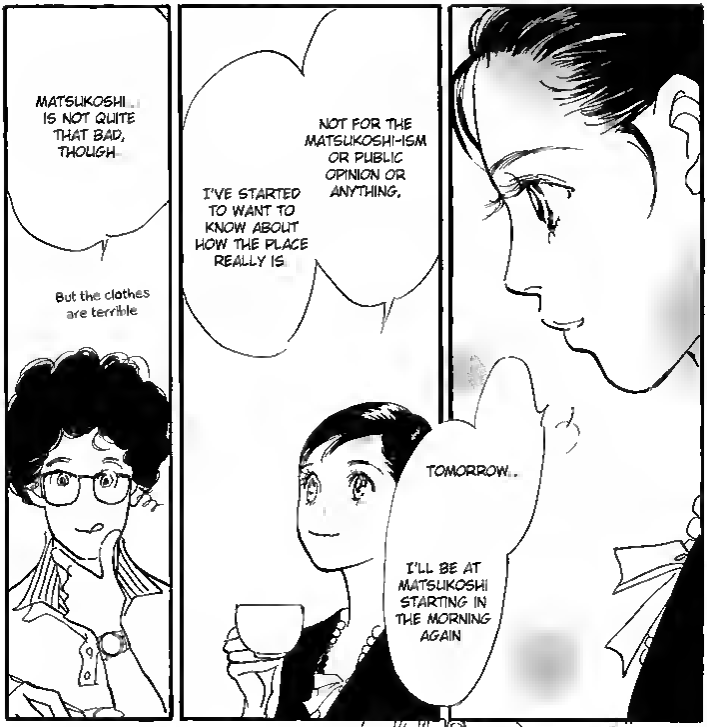
Real Clothes 8

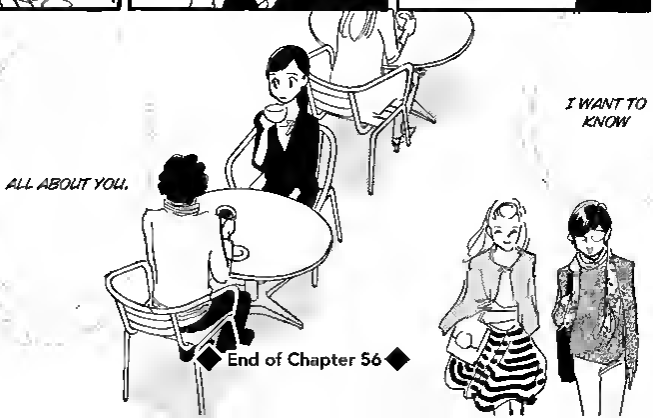
I'M ENVIOUS
OP.
OPINIONS ARE SOMETHING THAT, EVEN IF YOU CAN'T SAY IT CLEARLY—
THAT'S... I DON'T THINK IT MEANS THAT YOU DON'T HAVE ANY OPINION AT ALL.
WE NEED TO TAKE SOME MORE TIME TO GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER.
DON'T JUMP TO CONCLUSIONS AFTER THE FIRST MEETING!
YOU GOT SOME SORT OF COMPLAINT?!
THIS ISN'T ABOUT TAKING TIME OR RUSHING AHEAD.
RIGHT NOW, WE'RE STEADILY BLEEDING OUT AN INCREDIBLE AMOUNT OF MONEY— AND IT'S DISAPPEARING 10,000,000 YEN A MONTH!
BEFORE WE STOCK UP, WE HAVE TO CUT DOWN HALF OF THIS STUFF AND THEN REPLACE ALL OF THE LABELS THEY'RE SELLING!


CHOMP
BUT SINCE A DEPARTMENT STORE IS A LIVING THING, YOU KNOW.
IT'D BE NICE IF WE COULD JUST SWAP IT WITH A SNAP,
PUTTING IT LIKE THAT, IT SOUNDS LIKE REPLACING THE BROKEN COMPONENTS OF A GADGET.


WHEN YOUR HEART WAS BROKEN
EVEN THE BOSS! YOU HAD WEIGHT ISSUES BECAUSE YOU COULDN'T SWAP THINGS OUT SO WELL, RIGHT?

THAT "TAKE YOUR TIME PLAN" OR WHATEVER— MAKE A PROPOSAL— TO COMPETE WITH MY PROPOSAL.
THE TIME LIMIT IS ONE WEEK.
YES!
AMANO
He he~
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, ONE WEEK! YOU IMPATIENT ASSHOLE!


MATSUKOSHI... IS NOT QUITE THAT BAD, THOUGH.
But the clothes are terrible
I'VE STARTED TO WANT TO KNOW ABOUT HOW THE PLACE REALLY IS.
NOT FOR THE MATSUKOSHI-ISM OR PUBLIC OPINION OR ANYTHING.
TOMORROW...
I'LL BE AT MATSUKOSHI STARTING IN THE MORNING AGAIN



End of Chapter 56

Real Clothes

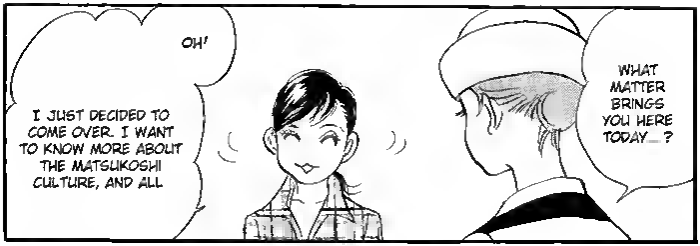
by Makimura Satora

Translated by : Quixoticpixel
Proof-Read by : Cyber_3
Cleaned by : Paralda
Typeset by : In Valen's Name
QC by : Maris

Real Clothes

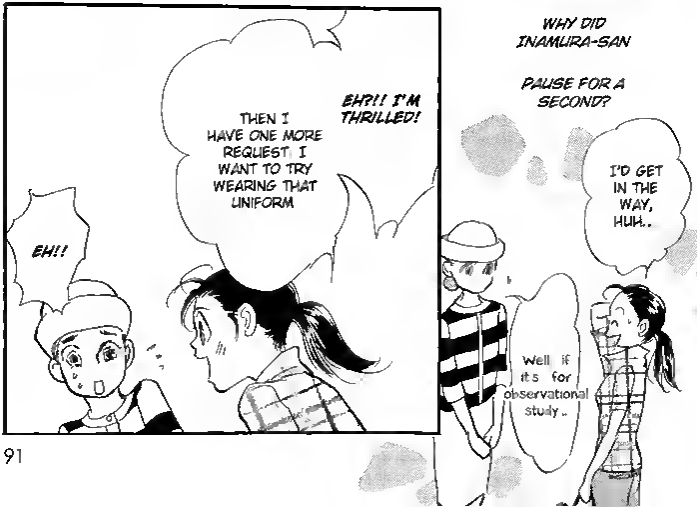
Chapter 57

AVOIDING THOSE DREADED RADIO EXERCISES—
Good to go!
GOOD MORNING! I'M AMANO.
IS INAMURA-SAN IN?
AH!
IT'S INAMURA-SAN.
YOUR SUMMER CLOTHES ARE CUTE—
Nautical-style! ♡


OH!
I JUST DECIDED TO COME OVER. I WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE MATSUKOSHI CULTURE, AND ALL
WHAT MATTER BRINGS YOU HERE TODAY...?

AH! MAY I JOIN YOU?
SHRUG
TODAY I HAVE THE FRESHMEN TRAINING AND... MANY OTHER THINGS... IT'S BUSY AND...

.....

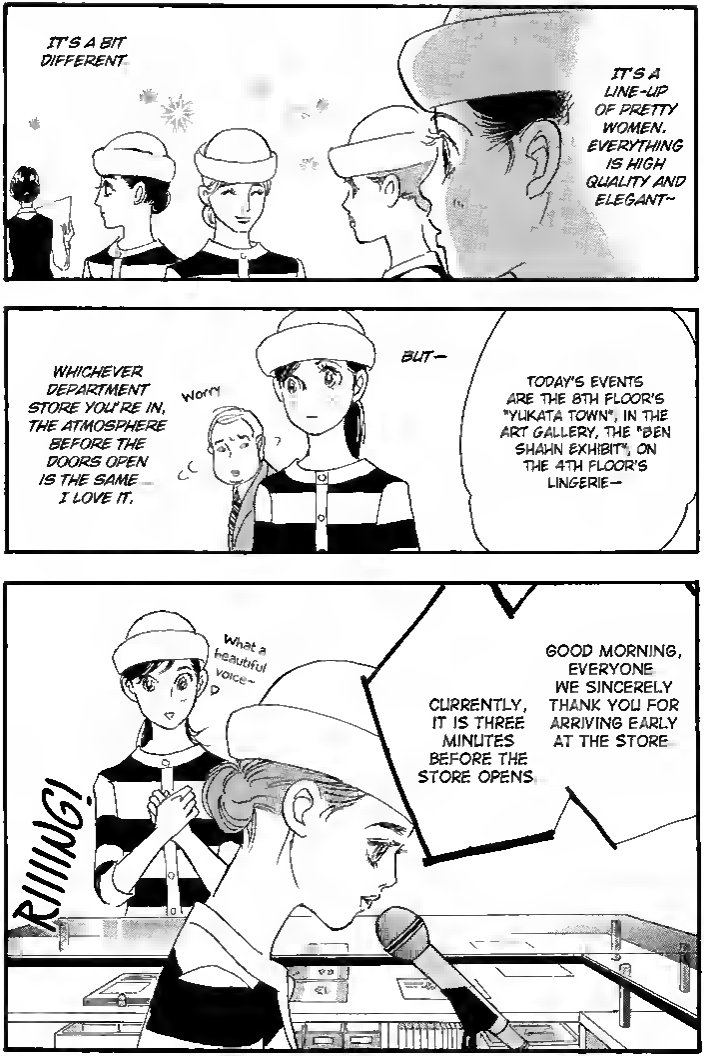

EH!!
THEN I HAVE ONE MORE REQUEST. I WANT TO TRY WEARING THAT UNIFORM
EH?!! I'M THRILLED!
WHY DID INAMURA-SAN PAUSE FOR A SECOND?
I'D GET IN THE WAY, HUH..
Well if it's for observational study..

JUMP!
THAT WON'T DO.
Good morning
IF YOU ARE ALRIGHT WITH MINE, I HAVE A SPARE..
UNIFORMS ARE THE SPIRIT OF MATSUKOSHI! THOSE OUTSIDE OF THE BELIEVERS OF MATSUKOSHI-ISM ABSOLUTELY MAY NOT WEAR THEM.
IF THE PURPOSE IS TO GAIN KNOWLEDGE OF MATSUKOSHI.
REALLY?!
SWISH!
Cosp...
YAY! MATSUKOSHI SERVICE GIRL COSPLAY!!

FLA—SH!!
I'M KIND OF CUTE, IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF~!! ♡
HOW DO I LOOK?
LIH—
YES.
YOUR MAKE-UP IS PALE. MAKE IT PROPER! MAKE YOURSELF MORE OFFICIAL-LIKE.
LIPSTICK IS PINK. LINER DONE SHARPLY.
HAIR SHOULD BE BLOWN OUT, MADE GLOSSY, AND STRAPPED WITH A BAND.
YOUR FINGERNAILS SHOULD BE 1 MM SHORTER!
WOAH WOAH WOAH!

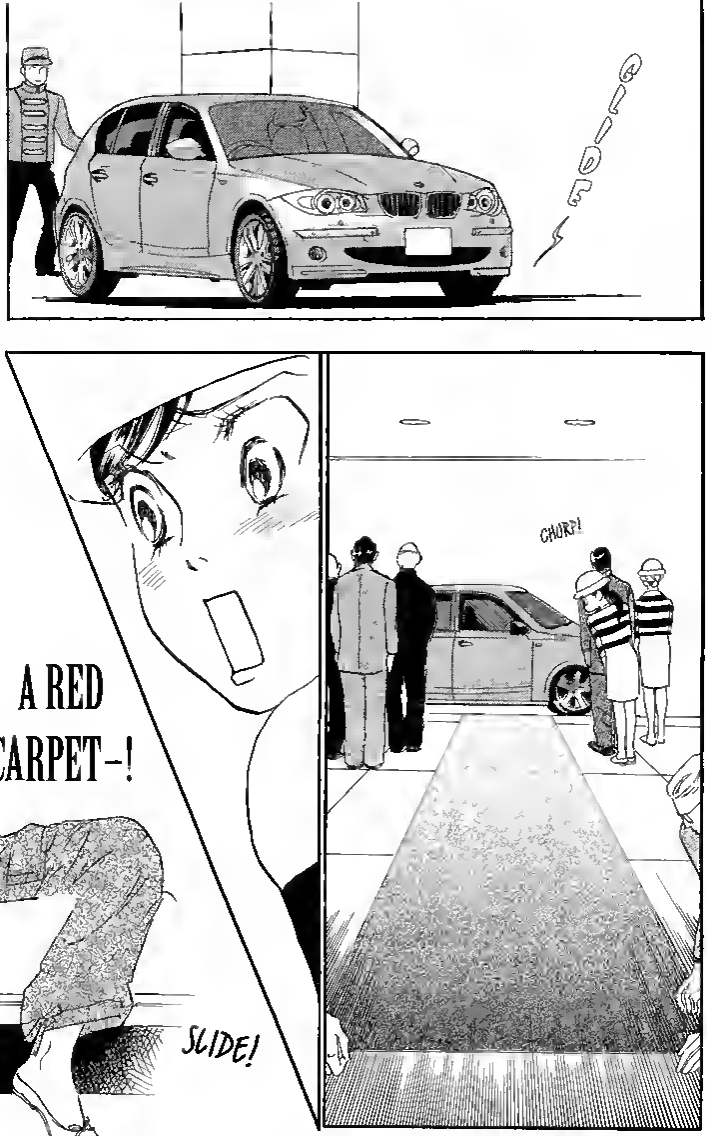
YOUR KNEES SHOULD FACE FORWARD!!
SNAP TO!
MPH!
KEEP THE PALMS OF YOUR HANDS TO THE SEAMS ALONG YOUR SIDES
DRAW OUT YOUR CHIN.
SQUARE YOUR SHOULDERS. STRAIGHTEN YOUR SPINE
HAVE STRENGTH IN YOUR SHOULDERS. LIFT YOUR CHIN!
INAMURA-SAN...?!
THE CORNERS OF YOUR MOUTH ARE FROWNING.
GRIN!
NOW THEY'RE TOO FAR UP
YES, MA'AM!

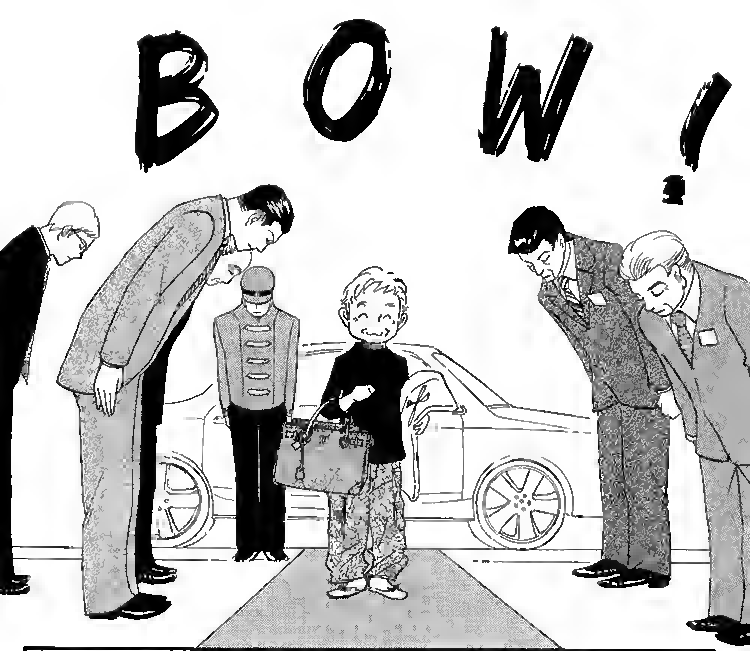
TODAY, AMANO-SAN FROM ECHIZENYA
SHALL BE OBSERVING MATSUKOSHI'S SERVICE.
YOROSHIKU ONEGAI SHIMASU.
YOUR TONE OF VOICE SHOULD MATCH THE GUEST'S.
PUT YOUR HEART INTO IT—
YES.
INAMURA-SAN ACTUALLY—

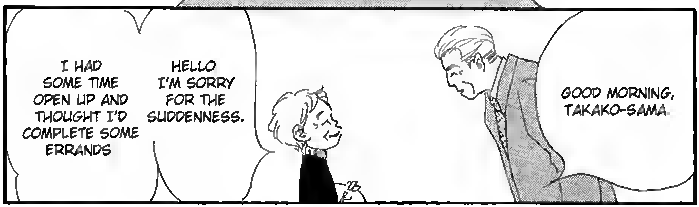

IT'S A BIT DIFFERENT.
IT'S A LINE-UP OF PRETTY WOMEN. EVERYTHING IS HIGH QUALITY AND ELEGANT~
WHICHEVER DEPARTMENT STORE YOU'RE IN, THE ATMOSPHERE BEFORE THE DOORS OPEN IS THE SAME— I LOVE IT.
Worry
BUT—
TODAY'S EVENTS ARE THE 8TH FLOOR'S "YUKATA TOWN", IN THE ART GALLERY, THE "BEN SHAHN EXHIBIT", ON THE 4TH FLOOR'S LINGERIE~
What a beautiful voice~ ♪
RIIIING!
GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE WE SINCERELY THANK YOU FOR ARRIVING EARLY AT THE STORE.
CURRENTLY, IT IS THREE MINUTES BEFORE THE STORE OPENS.

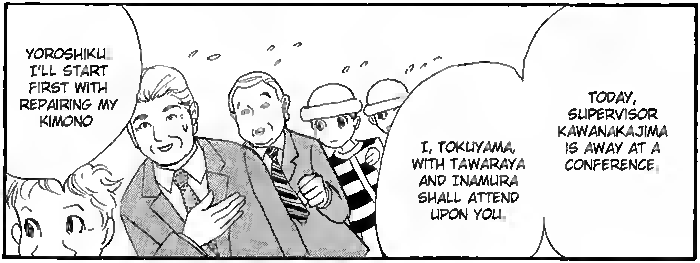
HELLO, 1ST FLOOR SERVICE DESK, INAMURA SPEAKING.
YES!
THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FOR ALL FLOORS. TESHIGAWARA TAKAKO-SAMA IS ON HER WAY HERE.
IN FIVE MINUTES, SHE WILL ARRIVE AT THE SOUTH ENTRANCEWAY. PREPARE TO GREET HER UPON HER ARRIVAL!!
CRACKLE...!
VROOM

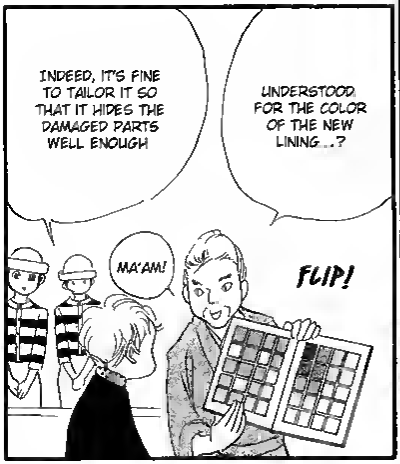
THE TESHIGAWARA FAMILY'S PEDIGREE IS THAT OF FORMER NOBILITY.
THEY HAVE A 150-YEAR RELATIONSHIP WITH OUR MATSUKOSHI— SINCE OUR DRY-GOODS ERA.
THE GREAT MATRIARCH IS TAKAKO-SAMA, AGE 75. IF TIMES HAD NOT CHANGED, SHE WOULD BE A PRINCESS.
CURRENTLY, SHE IS THE HONORARY PRESIDENT OF A REAL ESTATE FIRM
A PRINCESS!!
HUH?! WHAT?!
TUP! TUP!
!?
A Princess!!
THUMP!

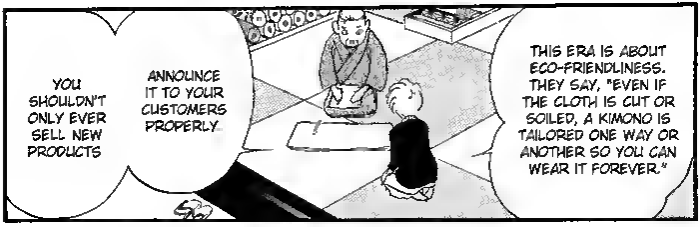

SLIDE
A RED CARPET-!
SLIDE!
CHURP!

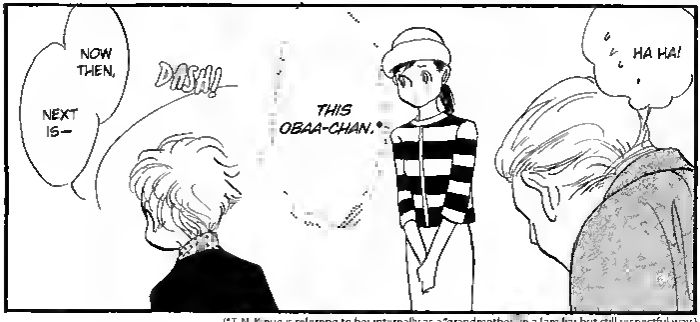

BOW!


GOOD MORNING, TAKAKO-SAMA.
HELLO I'M SORRY FOR THE SUDDENNESS.
I HAD SOME TIME OPEN UP AND THOUGHT I'D COMPLETE SOME ERRANDS

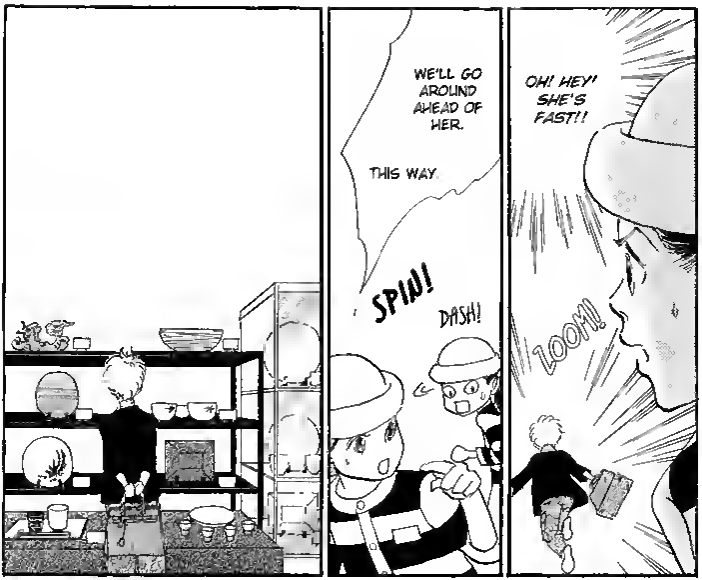

TODAY, SUPERVISOR KAWANAKAJIMA IS AWAY AT A CONFERENCE.
I, TOKUYAMA, WITH TAWARAYA AND INAMURA SHALL ATTEND UPON YOU.
YOROSHIKU. I'LL START FIRST WITH REPAIRING MY KIMONO

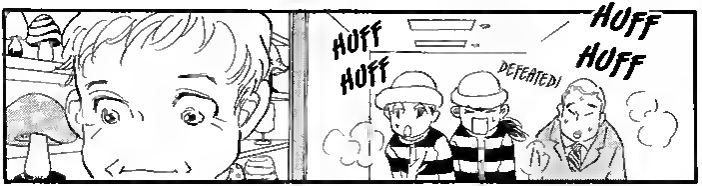

INDEED, IT'S FINE TO TAILOR IT SO THAT IT HIDES THE DAMAGED PARTS WELL ENOUGH
UNDERSTOOD. FOR THE COLOR OF THE NEW LINING...?
MA'AM!
FLIP!

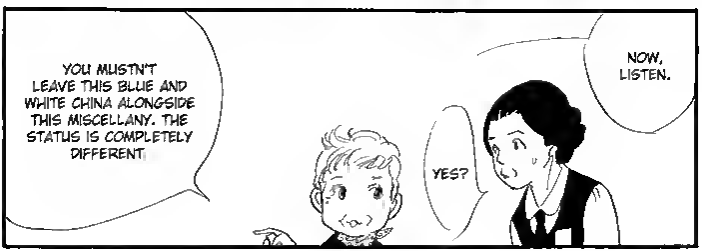

YOU SHOULDN'T ONLY EVER SELL NEW PRODUCTS.
ANNOUNCE IT TO YOUR CUSTOMERS PROPERLY.
THIS ERA IS ABOUT ECO-FRIENDLINESS. THEY SAY, "EVEN IF THE CLOTH IS CUT OR SOILED, A KIMONO IS TAILORED ONE WAY OR ANOTHER SO YOU CAN WEAR IT FOREVER."



(*T. N. Kinue is referring to her internally as a "grandmother" in a familiar but still respectful way.)

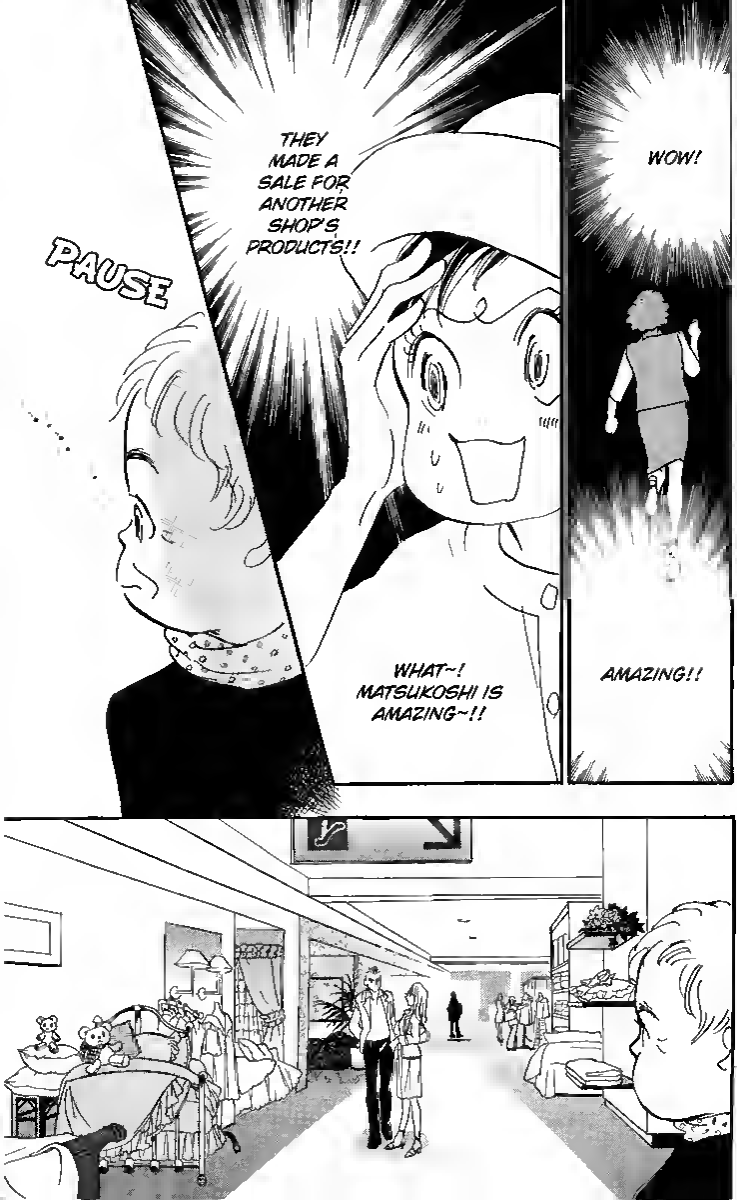

WE'LL GO AROUND AHEAD OF HER.
THIS WAY.
SPIN!
DASH!
OH! HEY! SHE'S FAST!!
ZOOM!!


HUFF HUFF
DEFEATED!
HUFF HUFF

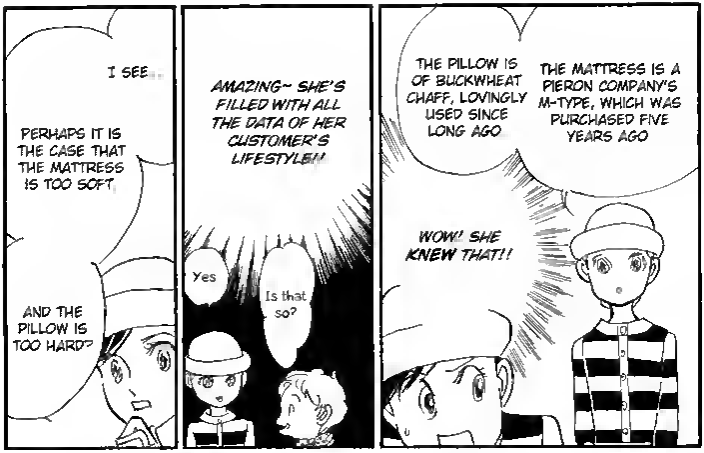

YOU MUSTN'T LEAVE THIS BLUE AND WHITE CHINA ALONGSIDE THIS MISCELLANY. THE STATUS IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.
YES?
NOW, LISTEN.

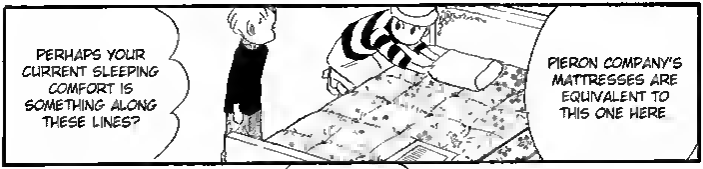
I...
THIS IS FROM A YOUNG CRAFTS-MAN.
PLEASE SEE TO HIS GROWTH WITH CARE.
I'LL TAKE TWO OF THESE.
YES!
THIS IS A GOOD ONE.
SEE? ISN'T IT LIGHT AND BRIGHT?
Hm~
SHE'S A CUSTOMER, BUT IT'S MIKI-SAMA!!
I LIKE THIS OBAA-CHAN!!

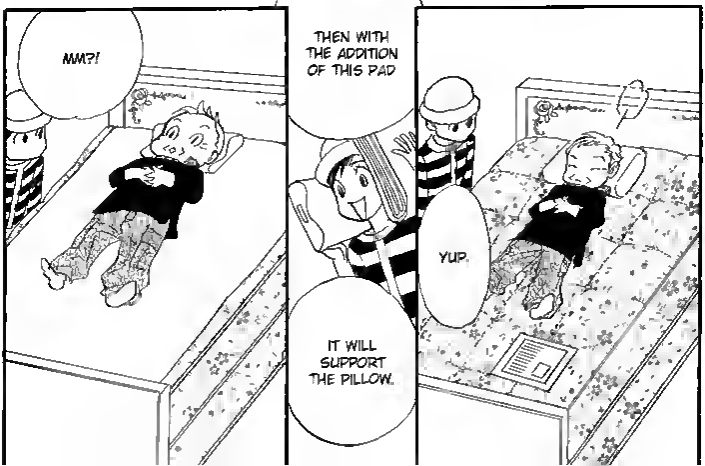
(*T/N A grater made of bamboo or pine.)


PAUSE
THEY MADE A SALE FOR ANOTHER SHOP'S PRODUCTS!!
WHAT~! MATSUKOSHI IS AMAZING~!!
WOW!
AMAZING!!

TAKAKO-SAMA, IS THERE SOME-THING...?
YES.
LATELY, MY BED HASN'T AGREED WITH ME. I HAVE A BAD TIME WAKING UP IN THE MORNING, AND MY LOWER BACK IS STIFF...
WELL, IT'S NOT A TERRIBLE PAIN, AND BUYING A NEW BED TO SWITCH OUT WOULD BE A BOTHER.
NEVER MIND THIS TIME
TAKAKO-SAMA,
THE PILLOW AND MATTRESS YOU'RE CURRENTLY USING—
WHAT TYPE MIGHT THAT BE?


I SEE...
PERHAPS IT IS THE CASE THAT THE MATTRESS IS TOO SOFT.
AND THE PILLOW IS TOO HARD?
AMAZING~ SHE'S FILLED WITH ALL THE DATA OF HER CUSTOMER'S LIFESTYLE!!
Yes
Is that so?
THE PILLOW IS OF BUCKWHEAT CHAFF, LOVINGLY USED SINCE LONG AGO
THE MATTRESS IS A PIERON COMPANY'S M-TYPE, WHICH WAS PURCHASED FIVE YEARS AGO
WOW! SHE KNEW THAT!!


PERHAPS YOUR CURRENT SLEEPING COMFORT IS SOMETHING ALONG THESE LINES?
PIERON COMPANY'S MATTRESSES ARE EQUIVALENT TO THIS ONE HERE.


MM?!
THEN WITH THE ADDITION OF THIS PAD
YUP.
IT WILL SUPPORT THE PILLOW.

HOW IS IT?
GREAT!!
IT'S SUPPORTING MY LOWER BACK RIGHT THERE
I'LL TAKE IT
YES, MA'AM!
GAPE—!
I HAVE TAKEN A LIKING TO YOU.
THANK Y...
SHE'S A NEWBIE AND NOT READY.
AMPH!
Forgive her
SO THERE IS SOMEONE WHO SPEAKS SO PLAINLY LIKE THIS AT MATSUKOSHI!

GASP!
THAT'S IT. IF YOU LOOK FROM A CUSTOMER'S VIEW,
THERE IS NO MATSUKOSHI OR ECHIZENYA.
UM... I DO HAVE ONE MORE SUGGESTION. ♡
What is it?
THAT'S IT!!

End of Chapter 57

Real-Clothes

by Makimura Satoru

Brought to you by WingtipCafe.com
Translated by | QuixoticPixel
Proof cend by | Cyber_3
Cleaned by | Paralda
Typeset by | In Valen's Name
QC by | Maris

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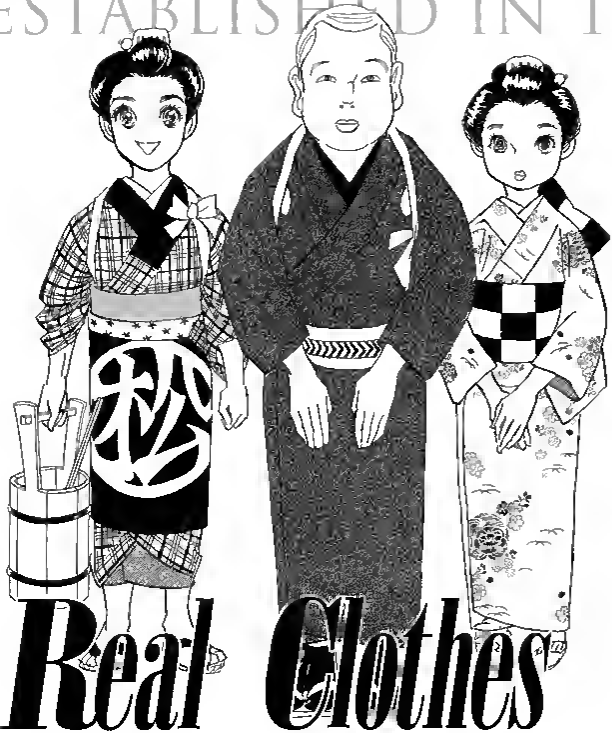
創業天保五年

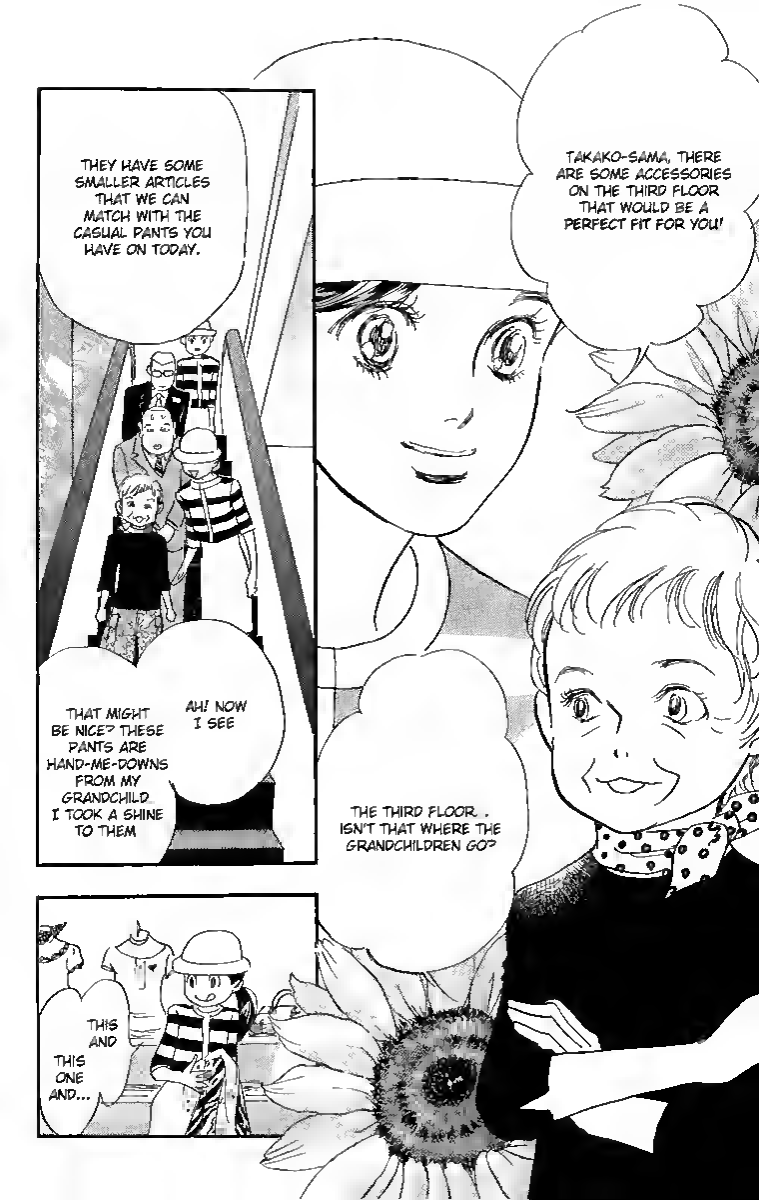
ESTABLISHED IN 1834

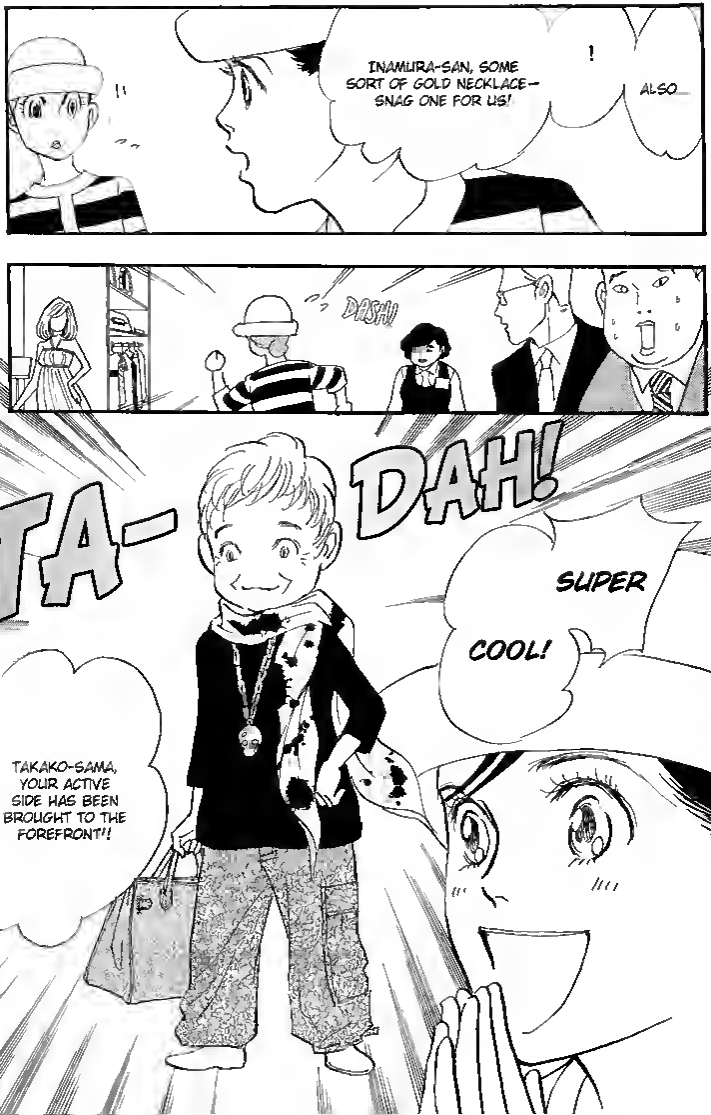


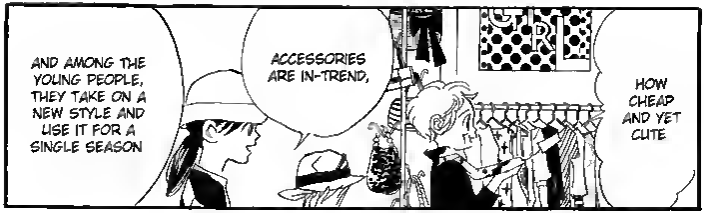
Real Clothes

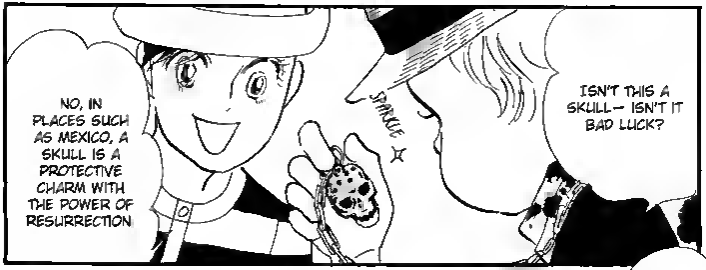
Chapter 58

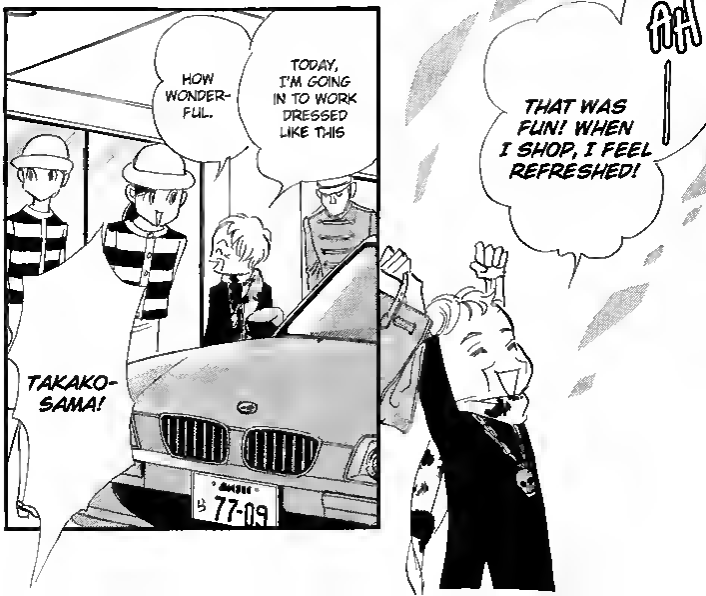
(*T/N: Knue's apron shows the first kanji of Matsukoshi, Matsu')

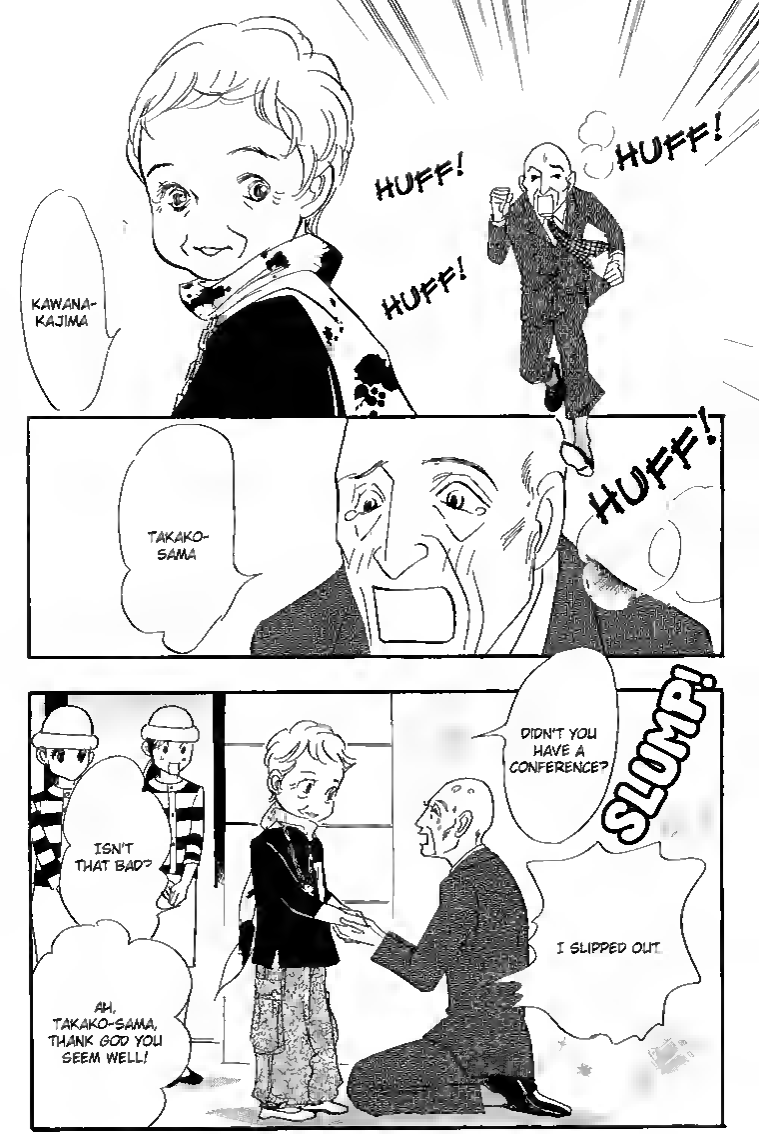

TAKAKO-SAMA, THERE ARE SOME ACCESSORIES ON THE THIRD FLOOR THAT WOULD BE A PERFECT FIT FOR YOU!
THEY HAVE SOME SMALLER ARTICLES THAT WE CAN MATCH WITH THE CASUAL PANTS YOU HAVE ON TODAY.
THE THIRD FLOOR... ISN'T THAT WHERE THE GRANDCHILDREN GO?
AH! NOW I SEE
THAT MIGHT BE NICE? THESE PANTS ARE HAND-ME-DOWNS FROM MY GRANDCHILD. I TOOK A SHINE TO THEM
THIS AND THIS ONE AND...


!!
INAMURA-SAN, SOME SORT OF GOLD NECKLACE— SNAG ONE FOR US!
!
ALSO...
DASH!
TA-DAH!
SUPER COOL!
TAKAKO-SAMA, YOUR ACTIVE SIDE HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO THE FOREFRONT!!


AND AMONG THE YOUNG PEOPLE, THEY TAKE ON A NEW STYLE AND USE IT FOR A SINGLE SEASON
ACCESSORIES ARE IN-TREND,
HOW CHEAP AND YET CUTE


NO, IN PLACES SUCH AS MEXICO, A SKULL IS A PROTECTIVE CHARM WITH THE POWER OF RESURRECTION
SPARKLE
ISN'T THIS A SKULL— ISN'T IT BAD LUCK?


HOW WONDER-FUL.
TODAY, I'M GOING IN TO WORK DRESSED LIKE THIS
TAKAKO-SAMA!
77-09
AH
THAT WAS FUN! WHEN I SHOP, I FEEL REFRESHED!

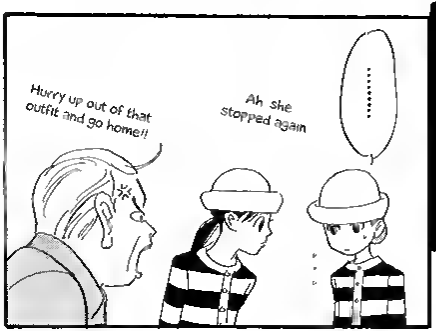

KAWANA-KAJIMA
HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!
TAKAKO-SAMA
SLUMP!
DIDN'T YOU HAVE A CONFERENCE?
I SLIPPED OUT.
ISN'T THAT BAD?
AH, TAKAKO-SAMA, THANK GOD YOU SEEM WELL!

SINCE SHE WAS BORN?!
OH YES, TODAY I BOUGHT A GOOD MATTRESS PAD I'M SURE IT'LL GET BETTER.
WHAT ABOUT YOUR LOWER BACK PAIN?
I PRAY SO.
A MATSUKOSHI CONSULTANT.
HE HAS SUPERVISED TAKAKO-SAMA SINCE SHE WAS BORN.
WHO'S HE?
EH?!

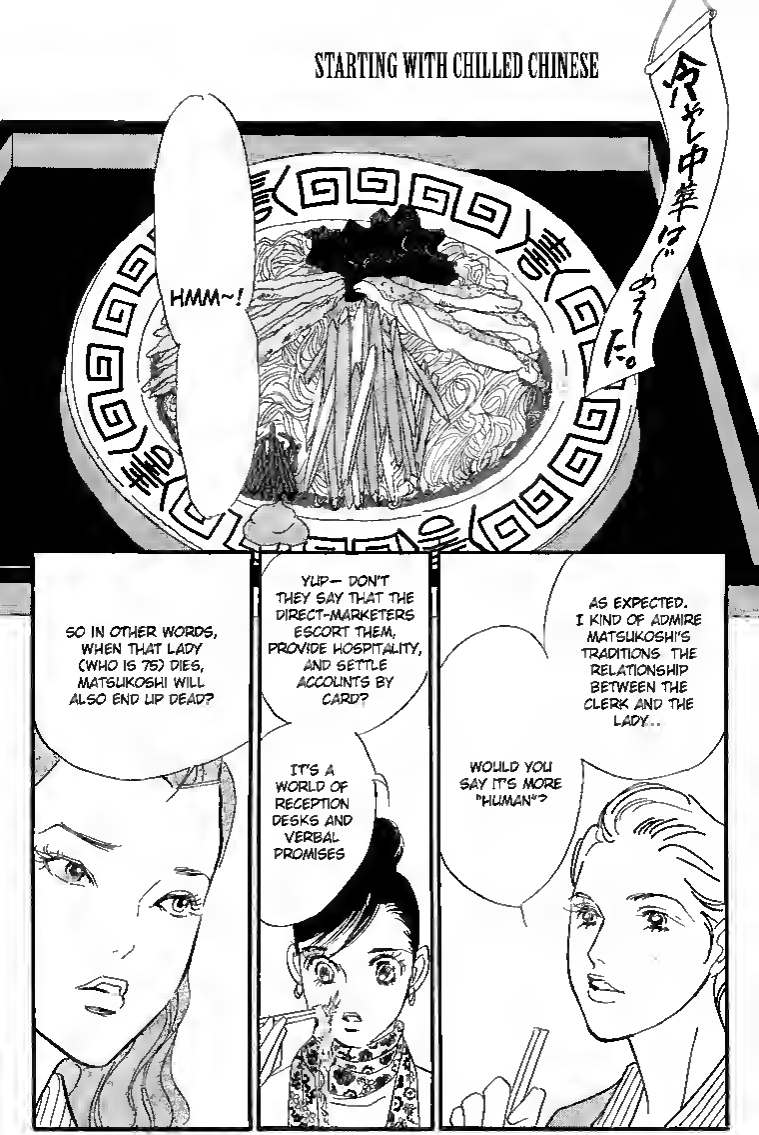
THIS IS MATSUKOSHI'S SERVICE.

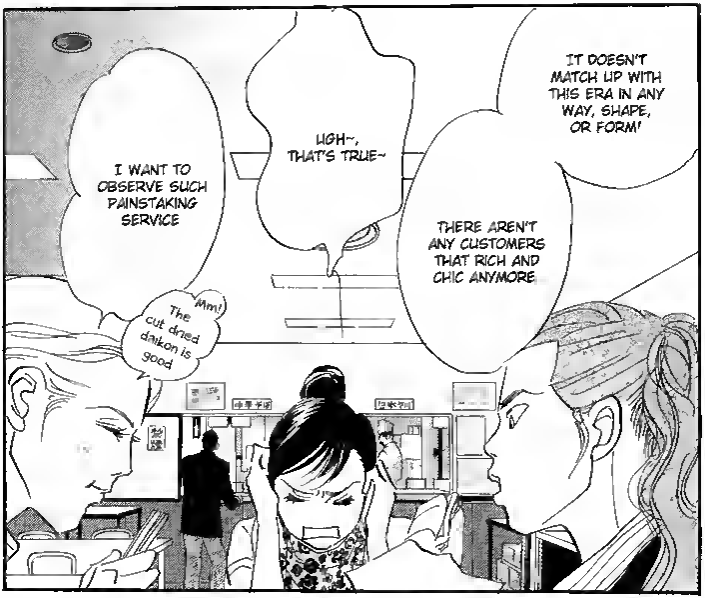
BUT THAT ASIDE, WHEN YOU BROUGHT THE SKULL NECKLACE, I THOUGHT, "WHAT AM I GOING TO DO WITH THIS?!"
"FROM BABY CLOTHES TO BURIAL CLOTHES."
"THAT'S THE PROCESSION OF PRODUCTS AT A DEPARTMENT STORE"--
PAEW
BUT IT TURNED OUT TO BE JUST RIGHT FOR TAKAKO-SAMA!!
I READ THAT IN SOME BOOK, BUT IT REALLY IS TRUE

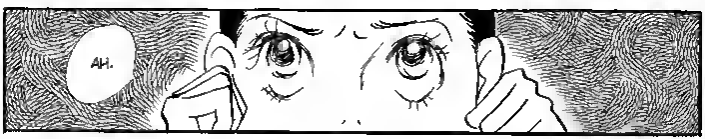
THIS IS MATSUKOSHI-ISM!!



MATSUKOSHI—
ISN'T BAD!!
GOOD-
BYE~!
But radio
exercises
aren't good!

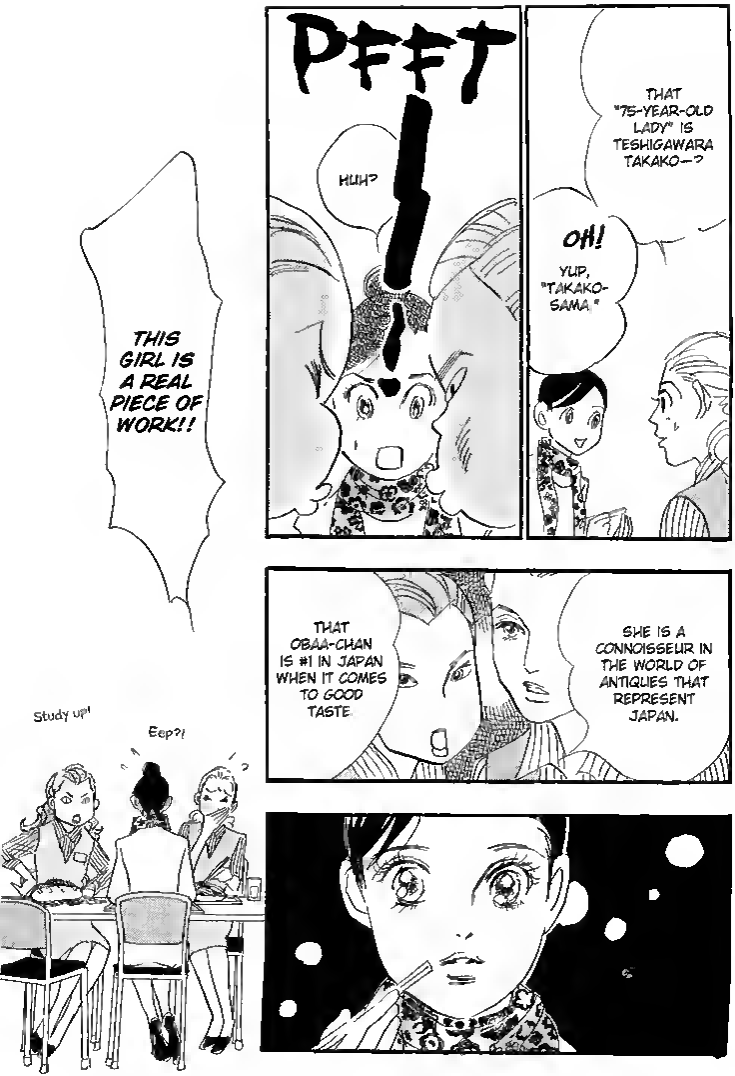

今年も中華ひやむぎ。
HMM~!
AS EXPECTED. I KIND OF ADMIRE MATSUKOSHI'S TRADITIONS. THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE CLERK AND THE LADY..
YUP— DON'T THEY SAY THAT THE DIRECT-MARKETERS ESCORT THEM, PROVIDE HOSPITALITY, AND SETTLE ACCOUNTS BY CARD?
SO IN OTHER WORDS, WHEN THAT LADY (WHO IS 75) DIES, MATSUKOSHI WILL ALSO END UP DEAD?
WOULD YOU SAY IT'S MORE "HUMAN"?
IT'S A WORLD OF RECEPTION DESKS AND VERBAL PROMISES

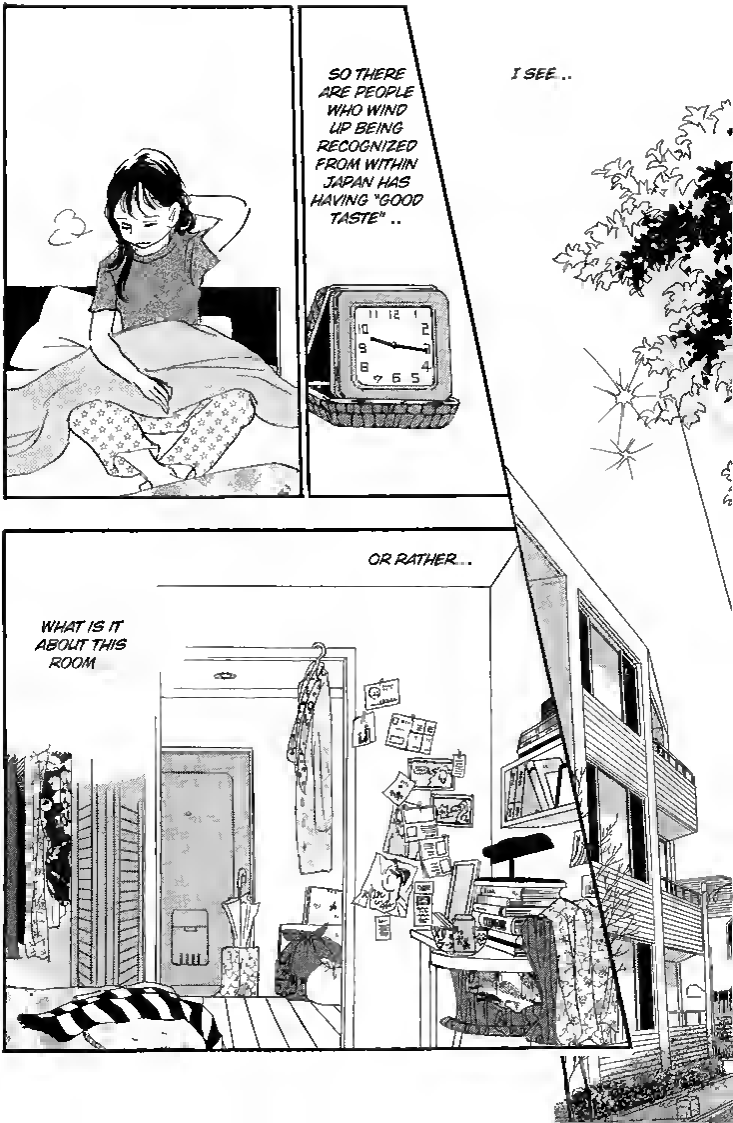

I WANT TO OBSERVE SUCH PAINSTAKING SERVICE
Mm! The cut dried daikon is good
HIGH~, THAT'S TRUE~
THERE AREN'T ANY CUSTOMERS THAT RICH AND CHIC ANYMORE
IT DOESN'T MATCH UP WITH THIS ERA IN ANY WAY, SHAPE, OR FORM!


AH.

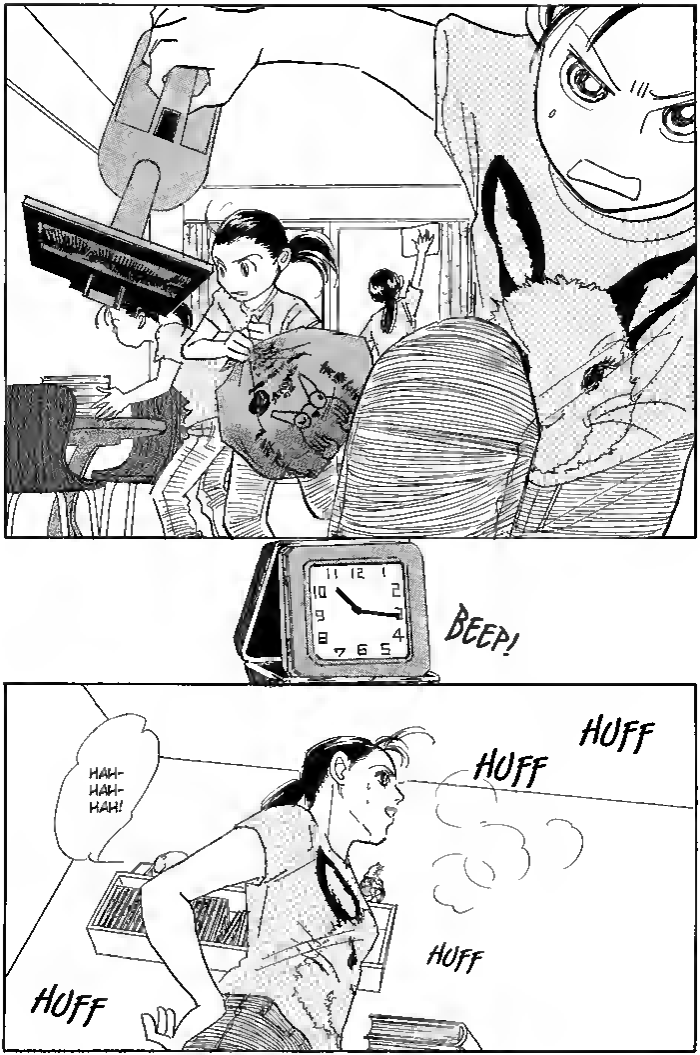
Uh
Hey!
My

DID YOU SELL A SCARF, A NECKLACE, A MATTRESS PAD, AND A PILLOW TO TESHIGAWARA TAKAKO AT MATSUKOSHI?
YOU— AMANO—
UH?
YES
SHE WAS A LOVELY PERSON?
HEH HEH
IT'S GOOD THAT YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT TO FEAR.
AS EXPECTED OF MY SUBORDINATE.
!
TURU!


PFFT
HUH?
THAT "75-YEAR-OLD LADY" IS TESHIGAWARA TAKAKO—?
OH!
YUP, "TAKAKO-SAMA."
THIS GIRL IS A REAL PIECE OF WORK!!
THAT OBAA-CHAN IS #1 IN JAPAN WHEN IT COMES TO GOOD TASTE.
SHE IS A CONNOISSEUR IN THE WORLD OF ANTIQUES THAT REPRESENT JAPAN.
Study up!
Eep?!

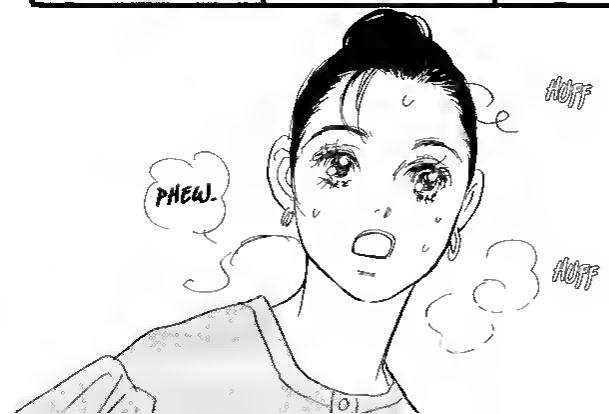

SO THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO WIND UP BEING RECOGNIZED FROM WITHIN JAPAN HAS HAVING "GOOD TASTE" ..
I SEE ..
OR RATHER ..
WHAT IS IT ABOUT THIS ROOM

LAUNDRY... TODAY FOR SURE.
AH~ THE TOFU FROM LAST WEEK IS STILL IN THE REFRIGERATOR...
DID I MAKE THAT BANK TRANSFER?
WHEN ON EARTH AM I GOING TO USE A DIET BELT?
A DAMN GIVEN.
THERE ISN'T ANY TASTE, OR EVEN
ALRIGHT. FOR ONE HOUR,
WITHOUT TAKING A BREAK, I'LL CLEAN UP!!


BEEP!
HUFF
HUFF
HAH-
HAH-
HAH!
HUFF
HUFF

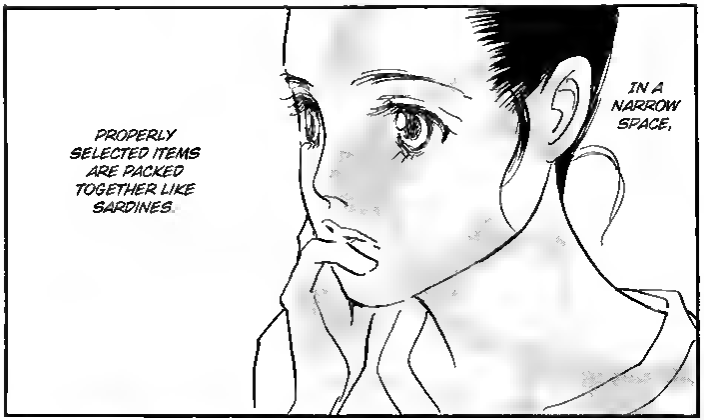
IT IS AWESOME TO HAVE SUCH A SMALL SPACE!!

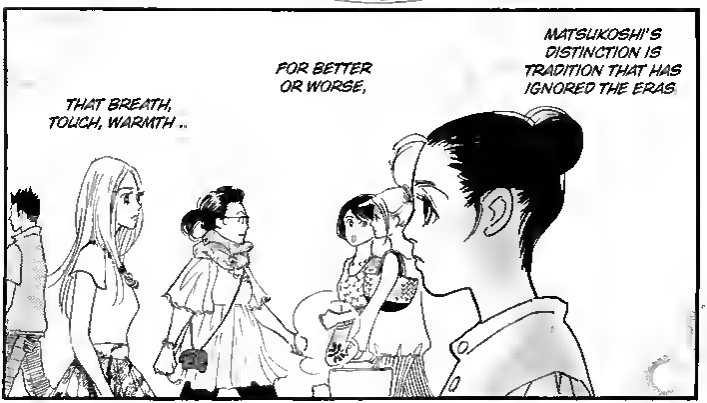
IF I HAD IT IN MY ROOM, IT'LL BE SURE TO SET THE ATMOSPHERE
I WANT TO BUY SOMETHING NICE
SOMETHING GOOD SOMETHING THAT RELAXES
SIMILAR TO TAKAKO-SAMA'S TEA CUPS
LIKE KONISHI-SAN'S OLD LEATHER SOFA


PHEW.
HUFF
HUFF

A "TOWN" IS HUGE WHEN YOU'RE RAMBLING AROUND~
I COULDN'T BUY A THING~
IT'S NOT LIKE MY TASTE WILL GET BETTER IN THE COURSE OF A DAY.

DEPARTMENT STORES ARE NICE...


IN A NARROW SPACE,
PROPERLY SELECTED ITEMS ARE PACKED TOGETHER LIKE SARDINES.


MATSUKOSHI'S DISTINCTION IS TRADITION THAT HAS IGNORED THE ERAS
FOR BETTER OR WORSE,
THAT BREATH, TOUCH, WARMTH ..

◆ End of Chapter 58 ◆

Real Clothes

by Hakimura Satoru

Translated by : Qwixoticpixel
Proof-Read by : Cyber_3
Cleaned by : Paralda
Typeset by : In Valen's Name
QC by : Maris

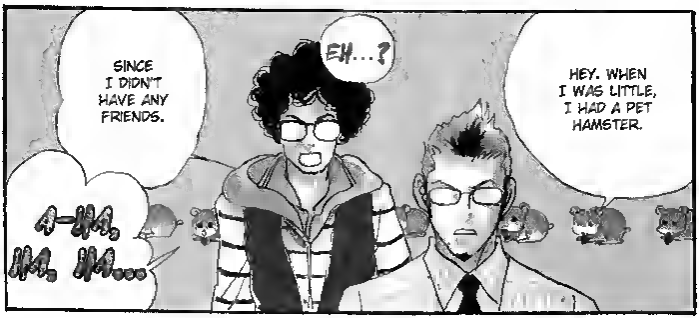
WingFairyCafe.com

Real Clothes

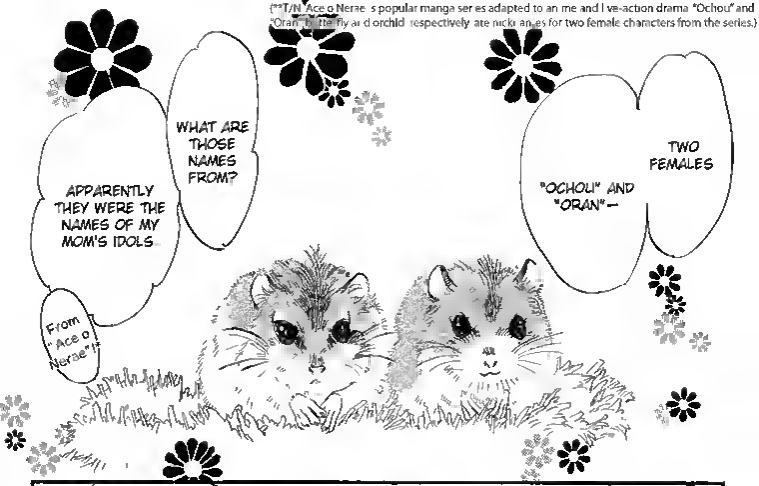
Chapter 59

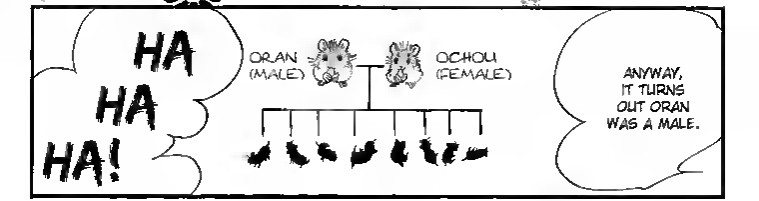
YUUSAKU,
THAT'S WHY I TOLD YOU!!

AMANO-SAN DASHED OUT OF HERE A WHILE AGO.
BOSS, IT'S TIME FOR THE SHOWDOWN.


SINCE I DIDN'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS.
EH...?
HEY. WHEN I WAS LITTLE, I HAD A PET HAMSTER.

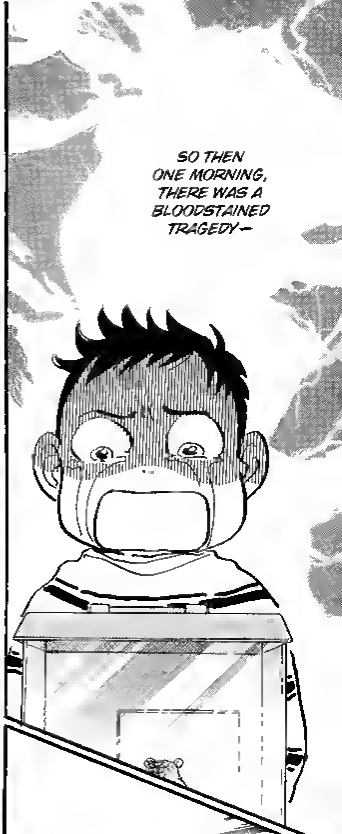
(**T/N: "Ace o Nerae" is popular manga series adapted to anime and live-action drama. "Ochou" and "Oran" (butterfly and orchid, respectively) are nicknames for two female characters from the series.)





BUT
ONCE THE PUPS ARE WEANED, YOU HAVE TO SEPARATE THEM EACH TO THEIR OWN CAGE
THEY WERE ADORABLE MY HOUSE BECAME A MELLOWER PLACE THANKS TO THEM
I wonder...
BECAUSE THEY WERE PARENT AND CHILD, RIGHT? THEY WOULD WANT TO BE TOGETHER, RIGHT? EVEN HAMSTERS.
I DIDN'T WANT TO SEPARATE THEM

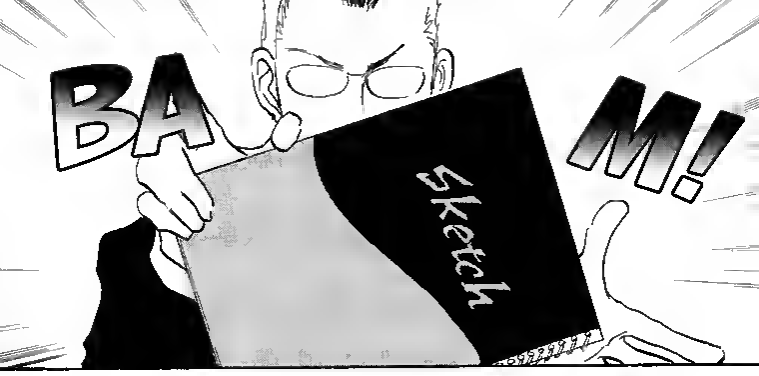
WHEN THE TIME COMES, YOU GOTTA LET GO OF THEM.
OR ELSE THERE'S NO FUTURE.

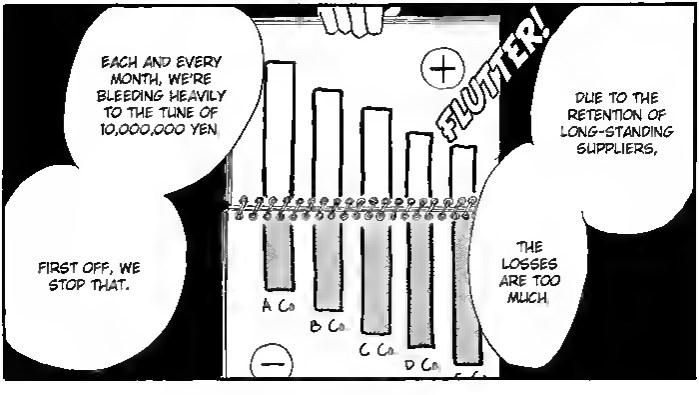

SO THEN ONE MORNING, THERE WAS A BLOODSTAINED TRAGEDY—

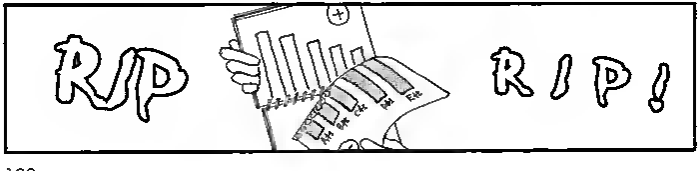
THAT'S WHY I TOLD YOU—!!

BOSS ..
YOU DON'T STILL HAVE HAMSTERS, DO YOU...?
WE'RE TALKING ABOUT CHANGING THE SYSTEM
ACCORDING TO THE DEGREE OF GROWTH
AND THE SURROUNDING CIRCUMSTANCES!
STRIKE!
WELL THEN,
3B
LET'S BEGIN THE MATSUKOSHI LADIES FASHION RENOVATION IDEA SHOWDOWN.

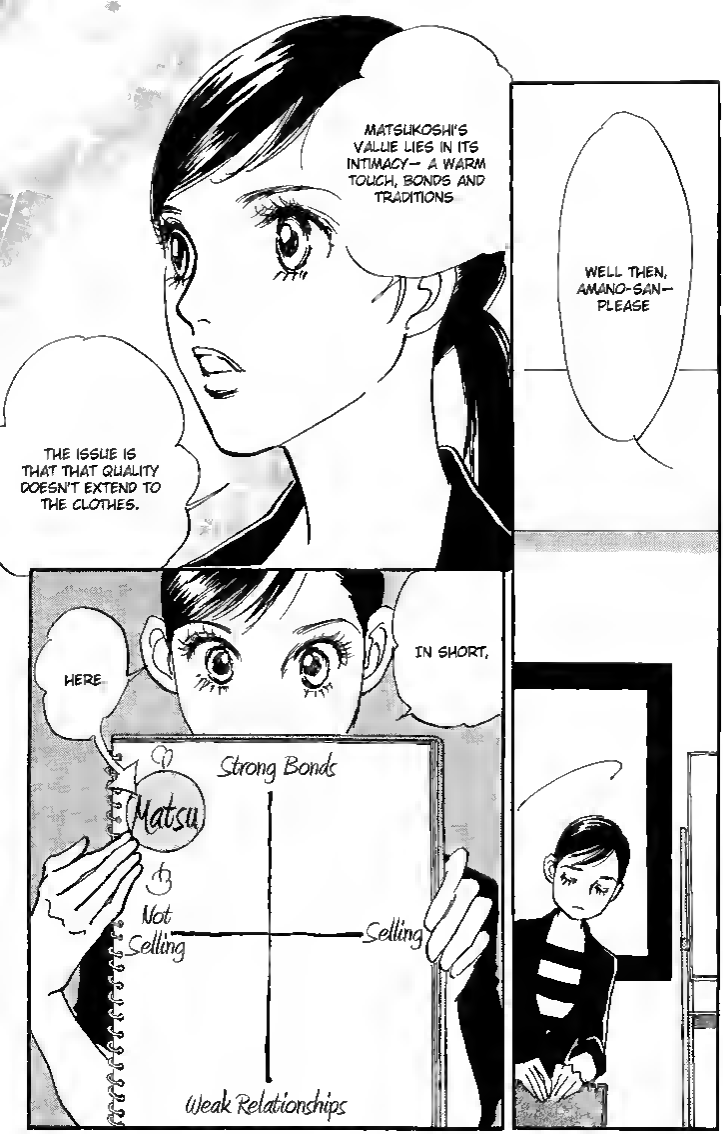
SCRIPT
FIRST, TABUCHI'S IDEA

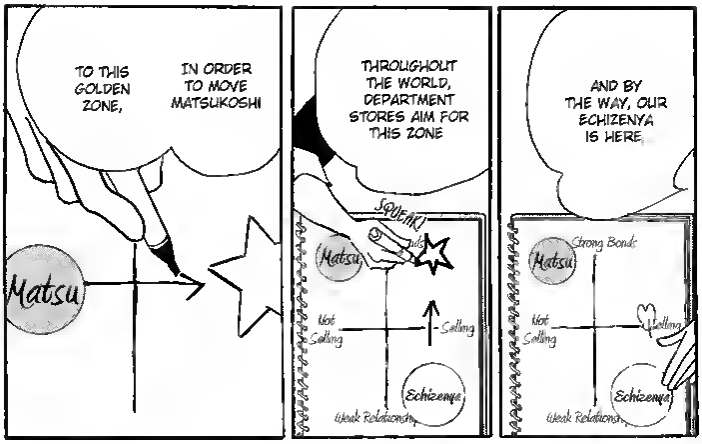

BA
Sketch
M!

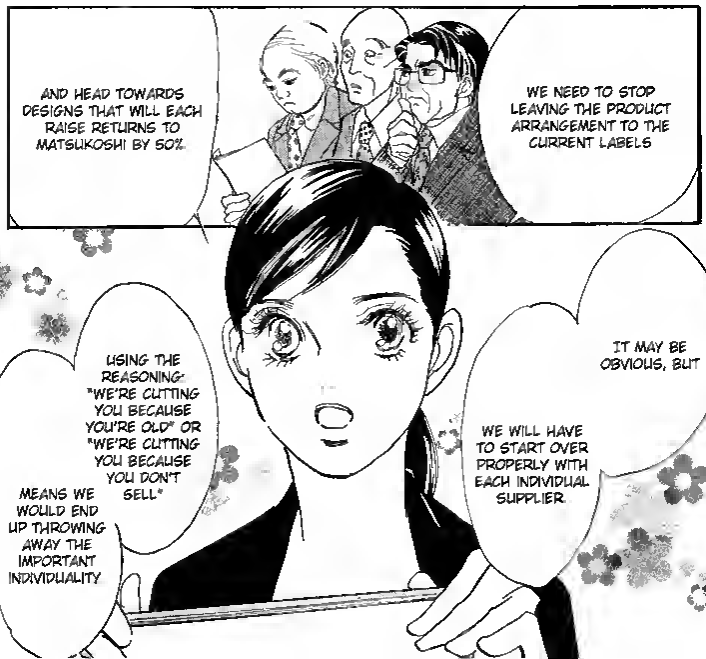

EACH AND EVERY MONTH, WE'RE BLEEDING HEAVILY TO THE TUNE OF 10,000,000 YEN.
FIRST OFF, WE STOP THAT.
FLUTTER!
DUE TO THE RETENTION OF LONG-STANDING SUPPLIERS,
THE LOSSES ARE TOO MUCH.
A Co.
B Co.
C Co.
D Co.


RIP
RIP!

DOUBLE THE PROFIT.
PAT!
AND THEN REPLACE THOSE WITH THE TOP TEN MOST POPULAR LABELS, EVEN FROM AMONG ECHIZENYA SUPPLIERS, TO RAISE RETURNS BY 50%.
THAT IS ALL.
Double
HMPH!
THIS IS LOGIC WITHOUT GIVING ANYTHING AWAY.
H
M

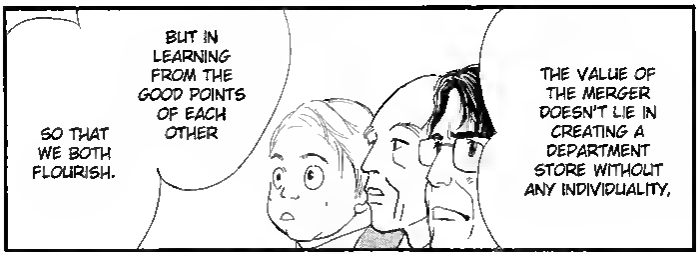

MATSUKOSHI'S VALUE LIES IN ITS INTIMACY— A WARM TOUCH, BONDS AND TRADITIONS
THE ISSUE IS THAT THAT QUALITY DOESN'T EXTEND TO THE CLOTHES.
WELL THEN, AMANO-SAN— PLEASE
IN SHORT,
HERE
Strong Bonds
Matsu
Not Selling
Selling
Weak Relationships


TO THIS GOLDEN ZONE,
IN ORDER TO MOVE MATSUKOSHI
Matsu
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, DEPARTMENT STORES AIM FOR THIS ZONE
SQUEAK!
Matsu
Not Selling
Selling
Echizenya
Weak Relations
AND BY THE WAY, OUR ECHIZENYA IS HERE.
Strong Bonds
Matsu
Not Selling
Selling
Echizenya
Weak Relations

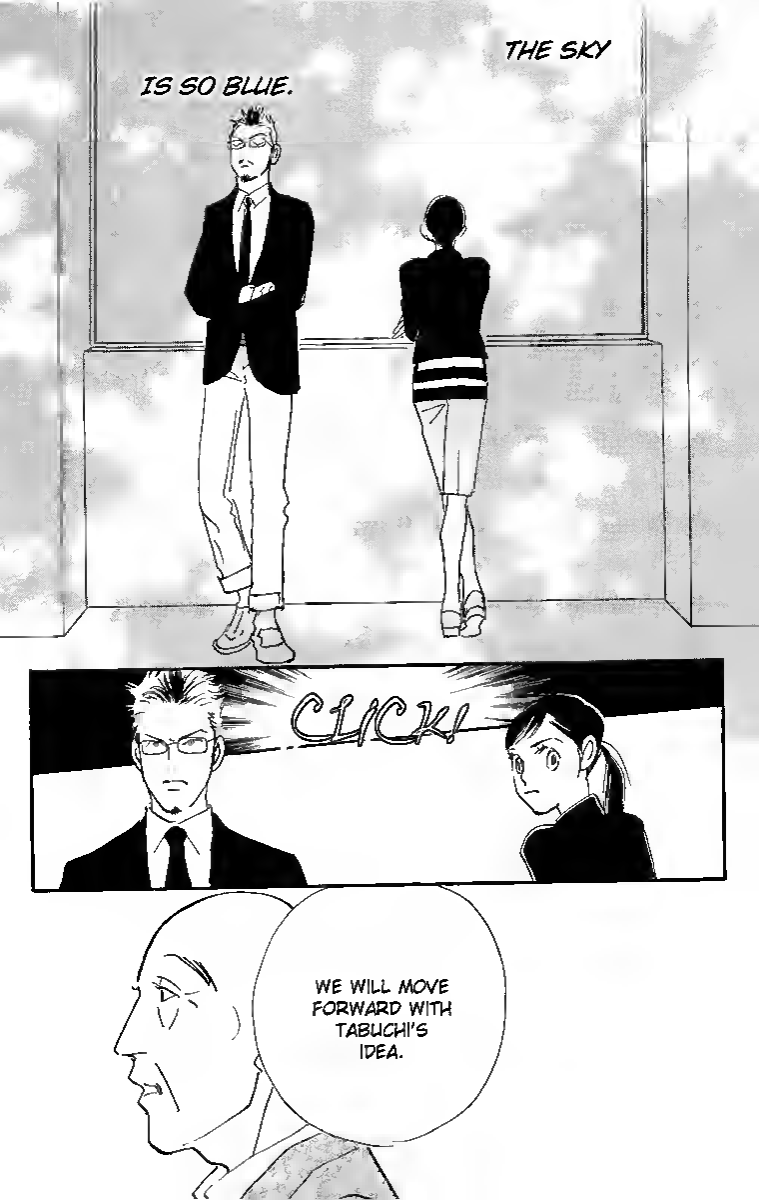

AND HEAD TOWARDS DESIGNS THAT WILL EACH RAISE RETURNS TO MATSUKOSHI BY 50%
WE NEED TO STOP LEAVING THE PRODUCT ARRANGEMENT TO THE CURRENT LABELS
USING THE REASONING "WE'RE CUTTING YOU BECAUSE YOU'RE OLD" OR "WE'RE CUTTING YOU BECAUSE YOU DON'T SELL"
MEANS WE WOULD END UP THROWING AWAY THE IMPORTANT INDIVIDUALITY
IT MAY BE OBVIOUS, BUT
WE WILL HAVE TO START OVER PROPERLY WITH EACH INDIVIDUAL SUPPLIER

IF THEY HAVEN'T INNOVATED IN 70 YEARS, WHAT CAN BE SAID TO MAKE THEM START NOW?
SAYING YOU'LL CUT THE OLD LABELS AND INSERT OUR LABELS...!
THERE'S NO POINT IN MAKING MATSUKOSHI INTO A CLONE

GRR!


THE VALUE OF THE MERGER DOESN'T LIE IN CREATING A DEPARTMENT STORE WITHOUT ANY INDIVIDUALITY,
BUT IN LEARNING FROM THE GOOD POINTS OF EACH OTHER
SO THAT WE BOTH FLOURISH.

IF THIS ISN'T A WIN-WIN,
IT WILL PLANT A SEED OF EVIL FOR THE DISTANT FUTURE.
MUTTER
WHISPER
MUTTER
MUTTER
WHISPER
WHISPER
THAT MUST NOT HAPPEN FOR EITHER COMPANY!!

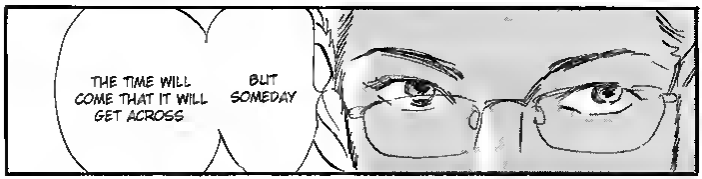

THE SKY
IS SO BLUE.
CLICK!
WE WILL MOVE FORWARD WITH TABUCHI'S IDEA.

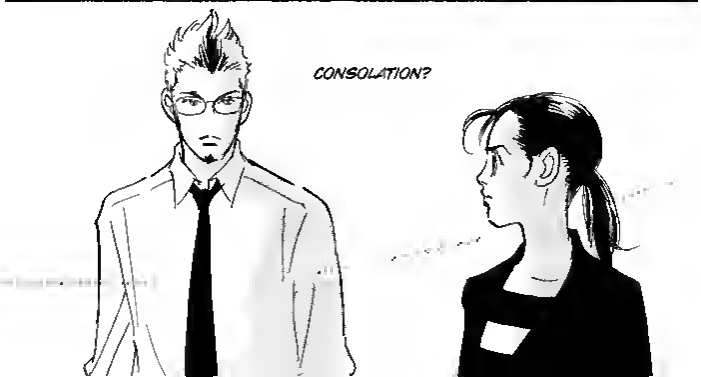
THIS STUPID COMPANY—!
UM...
DECIDING "THE SUPPLIERS TO CUT" AND THEN—
—SO
FIDGET
FIDGET
OF COURSE, I WILL BE THE ONE TO GO TELL THEM
THANKS - WE'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU!

PISSED
CLICK
3B
OPEN
DON'T BE MAD
IN TODAY'S ECONOMY, BUSINESSMEN ONLY SEE NUMBERS
IT'S A MATTER OF HOW TO DECREASE THE RED RIGHT AWAY
STOMP

WELL THEN,
WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN FIVE YEARS, TEN YEARS, WHEN THIS RECESSION IS OVER?!
WON'T THERE JUST BE A MATSUKOSHI WITH NO PERSONALITY, NO MEANING, LEFT OVER?!
GULP!
DON'T BE PISSED BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T GET YOUR IDEA ACROSS
ONCE YOU GET EMOTIONAL, IT ALL ENDS RIGHT THERE IT'S THE SAME AS ACTING WITHOUT THINKING

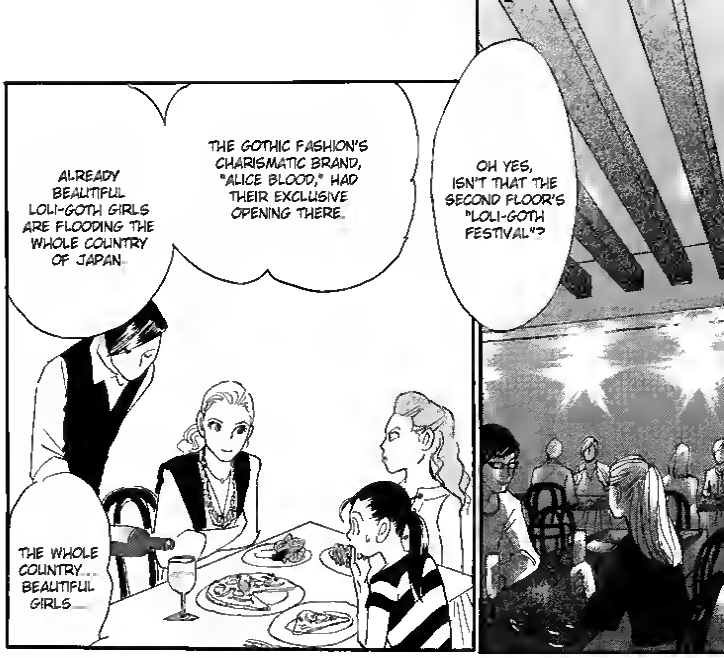
ARE YOU CURSING ME?!
GROWL!
YOU WOULD SUGGEST THAT IDEA IMPORTANTLY OVER AND OVER.
WORK IS WHAT YOU DO WITH YOUR PERSONALITY.
"Win-win"
"bonds"
"take time"
AND OVER AND OVER AGAIN, IT'LL BE REJECTED
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? SO BECAUSE YOU WON, YOU'RE SERMONIZING?
GLARE

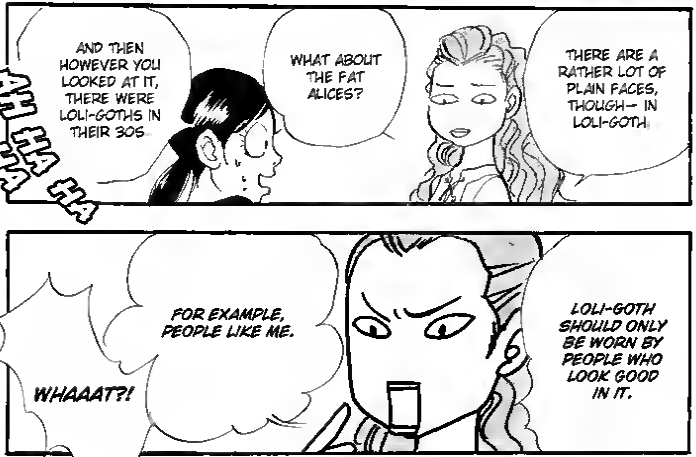

THE TIME WILL COME THAT IT WILL GET ACROSS
BUT SOMEDAY


CONSOLATION?

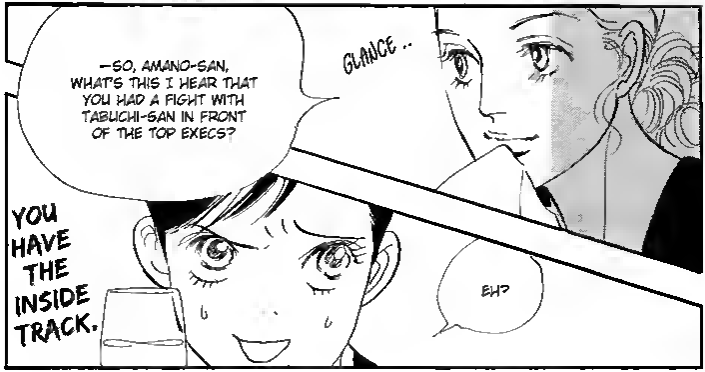
I'M GOING TO GO AROUND THE SALES FLOOR.
WHAT AMANO-SAN IS AIMING FOR IS A GOOD THING, HUH?
AH...
WHAM!
You can just go lose yourself in the perishables department
I'M SO SORRY!!

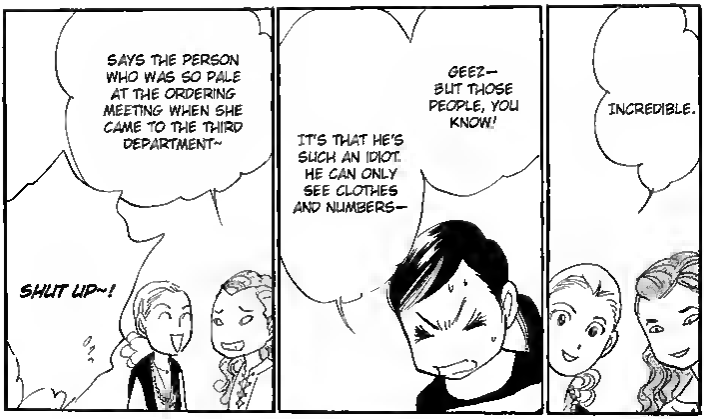
SHE'S SO CUTE!
No reply?
Dash!
Dash!
Dash!
—OR SHOULD I SAY, WHAT? WHAT'S THIS GROUP?!


OH YES, ISN'T THAT THE SECOND FLOOR'S "LOLI-GOTH FESTIVAL"?
THE GOTHIC FASHION'S CHARISMATIC BRAND, "ALICE BLOOD," HAD THEIR EXCLUSIVE OPENING THERE.
ALREADY BEAUTIFUL LOLI-GOTH GIRLS ARE FLOODING THE WHOLE COUNTRY OF JAPAN.
THE WHOLE COUNTRY... BEAUTIFUL GIRLS...


THERE ARE A RATHER LOT OF PLAIN FACES, THOUGH— IN LOLI-GOTH.
WHAT ABOUT THE FAT ALICES?
AND THEN HOWEVER YOU LOOKED AT IT, THERE WERE LOLI-GOTHS IN THEIR 30S.
LOLI-GOTH SHOULD ONLY BE WORN BY PEOPLE WHO LOOK GOOD IN IT.
FOR EXAMPLE, PEOPLE LIKE ME.
WHAAAT?!

The image of Gothic ♂ Ryou-san
WA—
I WANNA SEE YOU IN LOLI-GOTH, RYOU-SAN!!
9 HA HA HA


—SO, AMANO-SAN, WHAT'S THIS I HEAR THAT YOU HAD A FIGHT WITH TABUCHI-SAN IN FRONT OF THE TOP EXECS?
GLANCE ..
YOU HAVE THE INSIDE TRACK.
EH?


SAYS THE PERSON WHO WAS SO PALE AT THE ORDERING MEETING WHEN SHE CAME TO THE THIRD DEPARTMENT~
SHUT UP~!
GEEZ— BUT THOSE PEOPLE, YOU KNOW!
IT'S THAT HE'S SUCH AN IDIOT. HE CAN ONLY SEE CLOTHES AND NUMBERS—
INCREDIBLE.

"THAT'S THE SAME AS ACTING WITHOUT THINKING."
LOOKING DOWN AT AN ANGLE.
"DON'T GET EMOTIONAL."

She's being teased~
Puke
YOU'RE THE ONE ACTING WITHOUT THINKING!

End of Chapter 59

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Real Clothes

by Makimura Satoru

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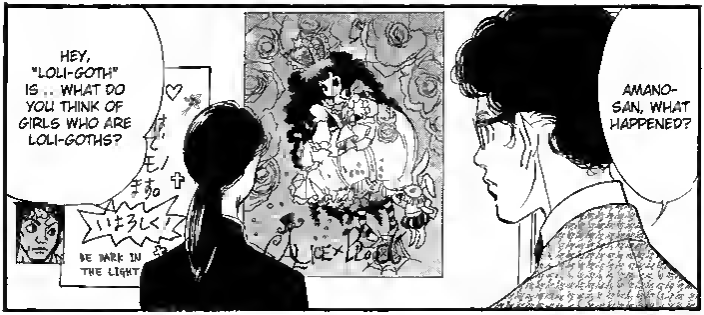
Proof read by Cyber_3
Cleaned by Paralda
Typeset by I'm Valen's Name
QC by Maris

Real Clothes
祭
FESTIVAL
Chapter 60

QUIET, HIGH-QUALITY, BEAUTIFUL VOICE, AND SMOOTH RECITATION.
ALWAYS MILD-MANNERED, NEVER SHOWING OFF HER ABILITIES, RESERVED.
A WOMAN WHO EMBODIES THE TRADITIONS OF MATSUKOSHI, THE GOODNESS OF THE OLDEN DAYS, INAMURA JUNKO.
PRIVATELY IS A LOLI-GOTH.
.....

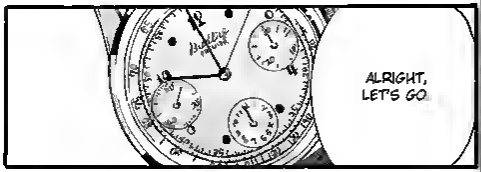

HEY, "LOLI-GOTH" IS .. WHAT DO YOU THINK OF GIRLS WHO ARE LOLI-GOTHS?
いまろしく!
BE WARK IN THE LIGHT
AMANO-SAN, WHAT HAPPENED?

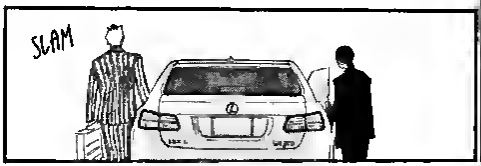
TO ME, IT APPEARS MORE LIKE ARMOR RATHER THAN ANY EXPRESSION OF PERSONALITY.
ARMOR THAT'S CALLED FASHION?
WHEN THEY WEAR IT, THEY CAN BE AT EASE THAT THEY WON'T FORM A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OTHER PEOPLE AND THEMSELVES.
HM~
I DON'T THINK I'D WANT TO DATE THEM. DON'T THEY BELIEVE IN STAYING SOLITARY IN THE WORLD?
PFFT!

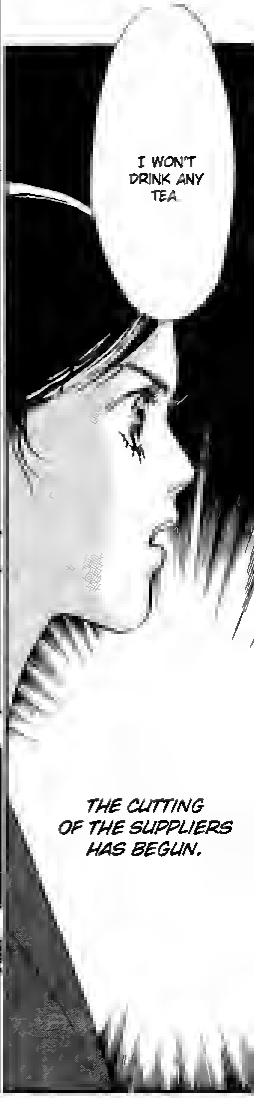
ARMOR—
OPEN
IT'S TIME. LET'S GO.
THE ARMOR OF A DREAM.

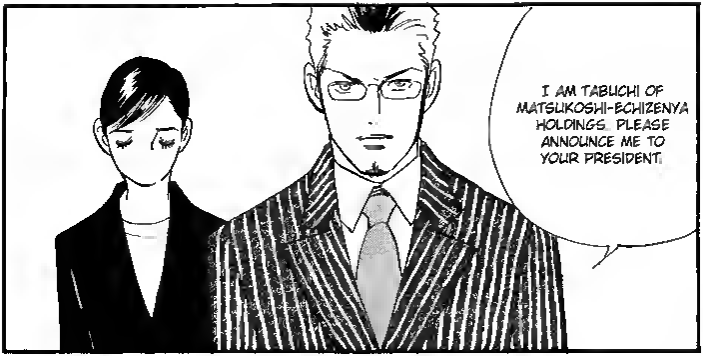
DON'T SMILE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE
DON'T BE LATE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE.
I WON'T BE LATE
I ABSOLUTELY WILL NOT SMILE.
I WON'T.
DON'T SAY ANYTHING UNNECESSARY UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE.
DON'T LAY A HAND ON ANY OF THE TEA OR SWEETS THAT ARE BROUGHT OUT— UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE.

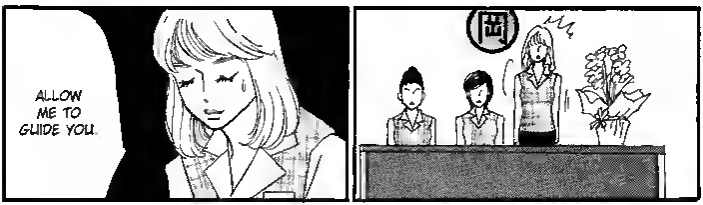
Maruoka Textiles
丸岡繊維

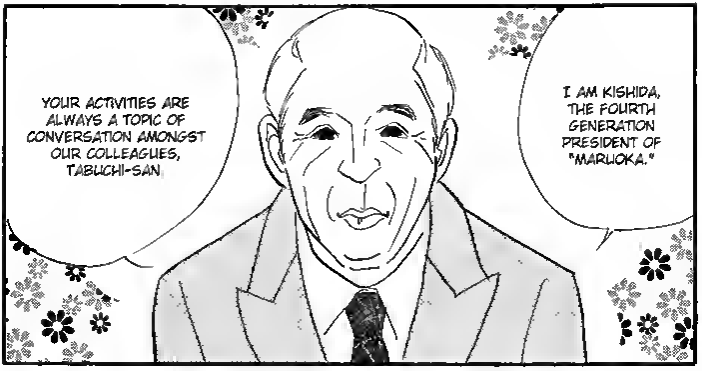

ALRIGHT, LET'S GO.

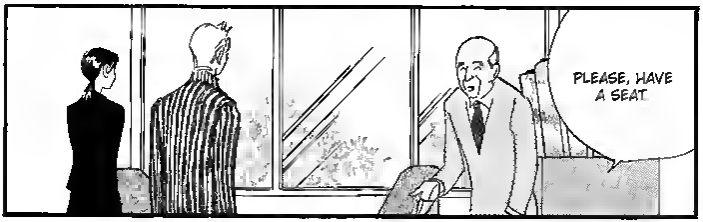

SLAM

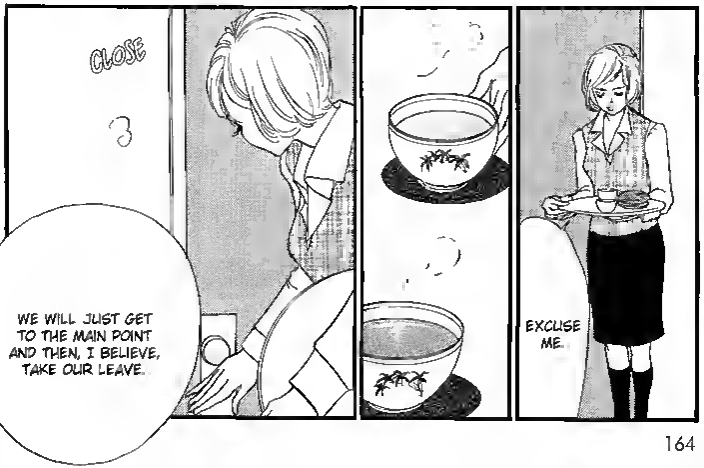

I WON'T DRINK ANY TEA.
THE CUTTING OF THE SUPPLIERS HAS BEGUN.

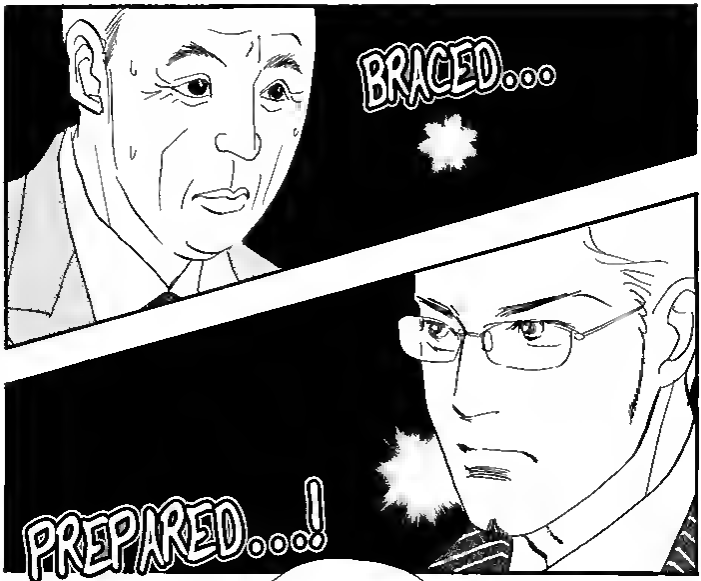

I AM TABUCHI OF MATSUKOSHI-ECHIZENYA HOLDINGS. PLEASE ANNOUNCE ME TO YOUR PRESIDENT.

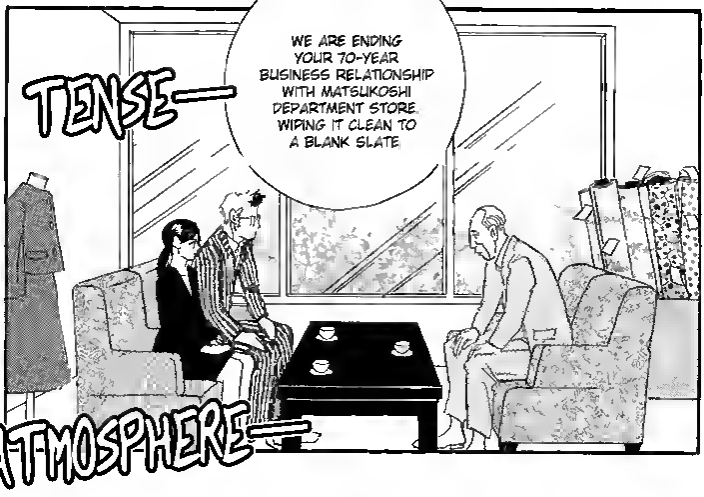

ALLOW ME TO GUIDE YOU.


YOUR ACTIVITIES ARE ALWAYS A TOPIC OF CONVERSATION AMONGST OUR COLLEAGUES, TABUCHI-SAN.
I AM KISHIDA, THE FOURTH GENERATION PRESIDENT OF "MARUOKA."


PLEASE, HAVE A SEAT.

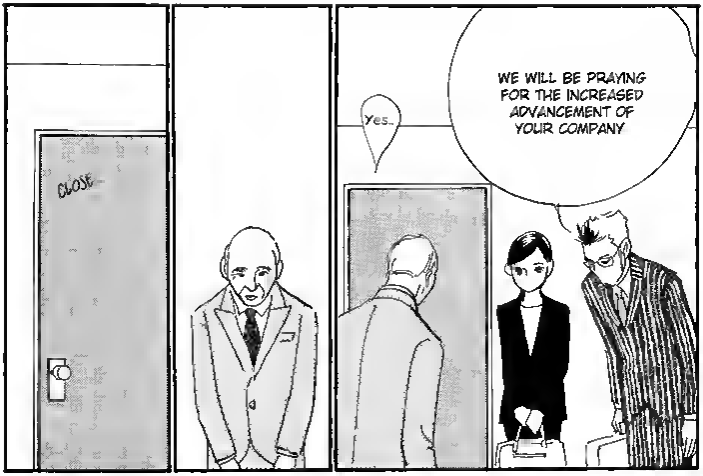

CLOSE
WE WILL JUST GET TO THE MAIN POINT AND THEN, I BELIEVE, TAKE OUR LEAVE.
EXCUSE ME.

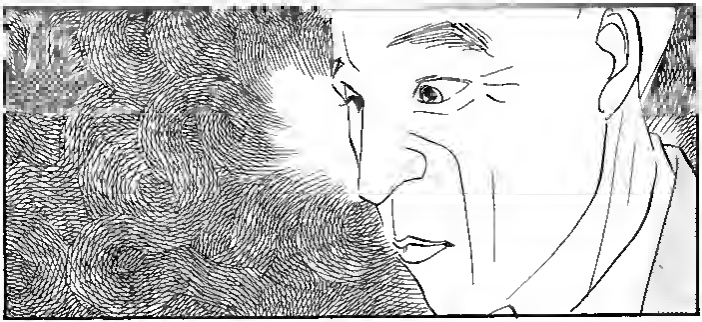

BRACED...
PREPARED...!

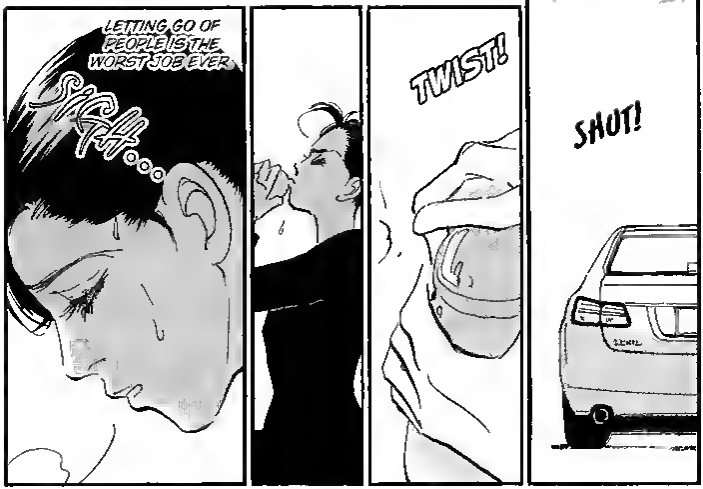

TENSE—
WE ARE ENDING YOUR 70-YEAR BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP WITH MATSUKOSHI DEPARTMENT STORE. WIPING IT CLEAN TO A BLANK SLATE.
ATMOSPHERE—

TENSE——
TENSE——
TENSE——
GLARE!

B-BMP!
B-BMP!
HE'S GONNA SNAP!!
I KNEW THAT SOMEDAY, IT WOULD COME DOWN TO THIS.
SOMEHOW, I HAD A FEELING ABOUT IT.

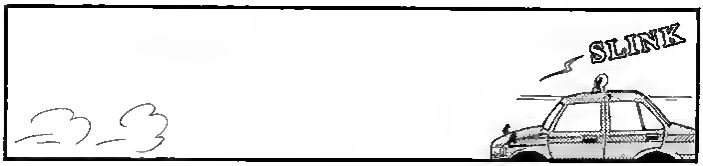

CLOSE
Yes..
WE WILL BE PRAYING FOR THE INCREASED ADVANCEMENT OF YOUR COMPANY




LETTING GO OF PEOPLE IS THE WORST JOB EVER
SIGH...
TWIST!
SHOT!

RIGHT
PLEASE GO TO THE SECOND PLACE, MASUTOMO STORE

VROOOM


SLINK

MARUOKA-SAN!
TAWARAYA-SAN...
HUSTLE
HUSTLE
HUSTLE
SHUT!
BA
M!
PLEASE FORGIVE ME FOR BEING WITHOUT THE POWER TO PREVENT THIS!!

WE ARE FORCIBLY DISCONNECTING FROM PEOPLE THIS WAY.
ISN'T IT SIMILAR TO A DRIVE-BY SHOOTING?
WHAT WILL BECOME OF THE PEOPLE WORKING AT THIS FACTORY?
WILL THEY BE ALRIGHT?

THERE'S NO WAY THEY'D BE ALRIGHT.
BUT DESPITE THAT, WHY ARE THEY ALL PASSIVE?
FLARE UP?
WHY DOES NO ONE
I KNEW THAT SOMEDAY, IT WOULD COME DOWN TO THIS
WHY
DIDN'T THEY TAKE MEASURES IF THEY KNEW ALL ABOUT IT?

MORE THAN ANYTHING, PEOPLE FEAR CHANGE
EVEN IF THEY KNOW IN THEIR HEART THAT THINGS WON'T WORK OUT IF THEY CONTINUE AS THEY ARE,
CHANGE TERRIFIES THEM
AND THEY WANT TO POSTPONE EFFECTING NECESSARY CHANGES.
THAT'S TRUE.
I WAS AFRAID OF DESTROYING IT.
DIVERGING PATHS, ILL FEELINGS, IRRITATIONS—
ALL WERE IGNORED WITHOUT BEING PROPERLY COMMUNICATED..

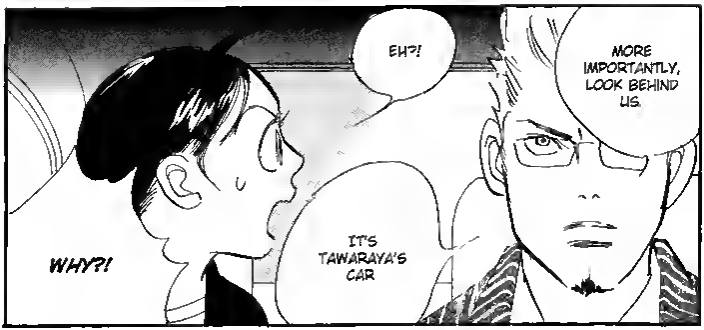
A FRAIL RELATIONSHIP—

AND YET I STILL THOUGHT THAT WE COULD MARRY..

I THOUGHT THAT IF WE NEVER CLASHED, SOMEDAY WE'D SETTLE FULLY AND WELL...

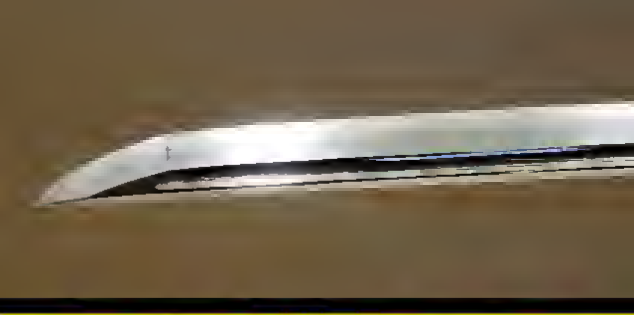
BUT THEN TATSUYA'S FATHER PASSED ON, BLOWING EVERYTHING AWAY

FROM THERE, THEY'LL NEED A RESERVE OF STRENGTH TO GET BACK ON THEIR FEET.
THE PROBLEMS COME AFTER THE RELATIONSHIP IS BROKEN.
GASP!


EH?!
MORE IMPORTANTLY, LOOK BEHIND US.
IT'S TAWARAYA'S CAR
WHY?!

HELLO, TAWARAYA-SAN? IT'S TABUCHI. GOOD JOB, TODAY.
BLIP!
YEESH
HE'S PROBABLY GOING AROUND TO KOWTOW.
FROM HERE, WE'RE GOING TO DROP BY MATSUKOSHI. LET'S TALK ABOUT TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OUR OBJECTIVES FROM HERE ON OUT.
BRAKE!
SCOOT
SCOOT
SCOOT

◆ End of Chapter 60 ◆



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Typeset by : In Valen's Name
QC by : Mavis

Real Clothes

by Nakamura Satoru

(T/N: In Japan, it is customary to send greeting cards in specific seasons.
This is an example of a card for the "Zansho" season, starting in mid-September.)

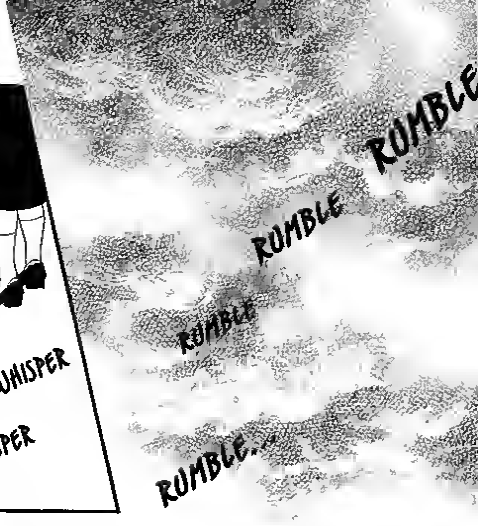
残暑お見舞い申し上げまする

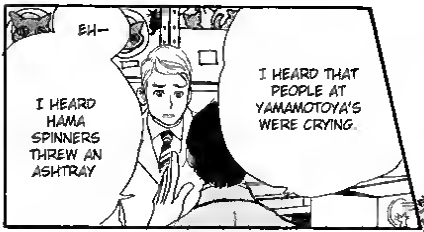
I OFFER A LATE-SUMMER GREETING.

Real Clothes

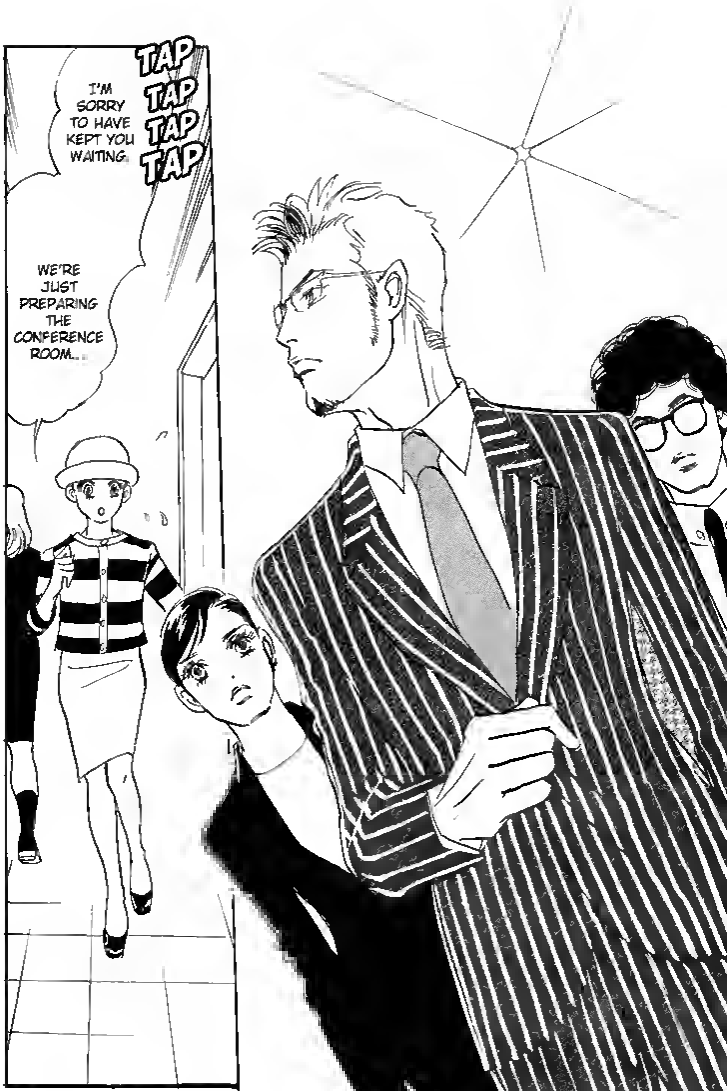
Chapter 61

"YOU'RE THROUGH"— THEY SAID
THEY REALLY DID IT.
WHISPER
WHISPER

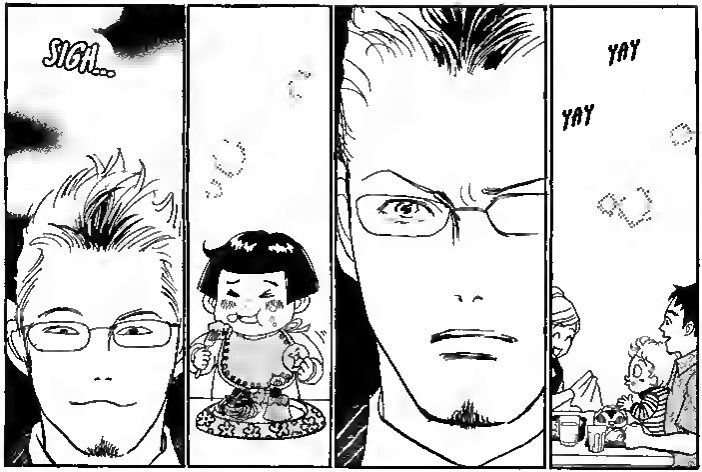

ROMBLE
ROMBLE
ROMBLE
ROMBLE...

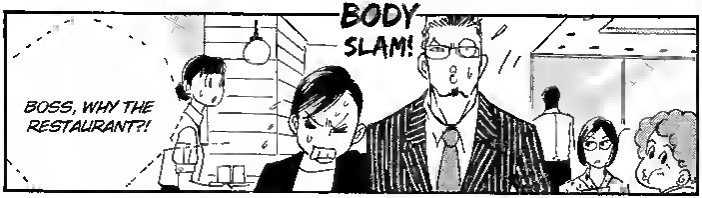

EH—
I HEARD HAMA SPINNERS THREW AN ASHTRAY
I HEARD THAT PEOPLE AT YAMAMOTOYA'S WERE CRYING.

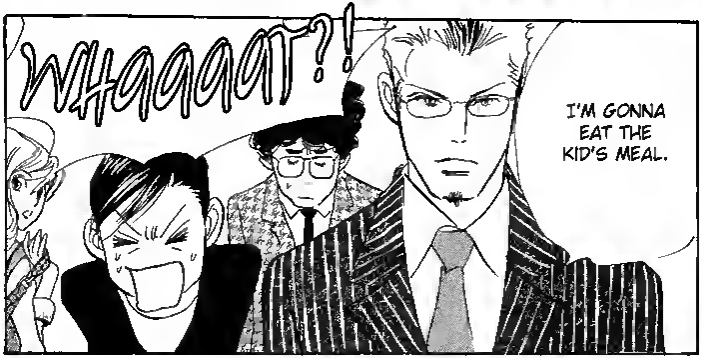
THEY'RE DEMONS.


TAP TAP TAP TAP
I'M SORRY TO HAVE KEPT YOU WAITING.
WE'RE JUST PREPARING THE CONFERENCE ROOM...

THE CONFERENCE WILL BE AT "RESTAURANT MATSUKOSHI" ON THE 9TH FLOOR
!?
社訓
!!
!?
UNDERSTOOD
TAP
TAP
TAP...
CHATTER
CHATTER


SIGH...
YAY
YAY


BODY SLAM!
BOSS, WHY THE RESTAURANT?!


WHAAAAT?!
I'M GONNA EAT THE KID'S MEAL.

"WHEN NETWORKING CALLOUSLY, DON'T LAY A FINGER ON THE TEA OR ANY KIND OF SWEETS."
—WHO SAID THAT AGAIN...
I DETEST MATSUKOSHI SO GREATLY—
THAT I MAY NOT COME BACK HERE ANOTHER TIME
IN MEMORY OF THIS LIFE, I WILL EAT THE MATSUKOSHI KID'S LUNCH!
MUFFLED
NI~
PANT
HUFF
HUFF

Real Clothes 8

IT'S SO GOOD!
IT'S ALL SO GOOD!
SHUDDER...
!
COUGH!
.....

SHNNNG!
I'M MAKING AN ANNOUNCEMENT
CRACK
RUMBLE
GRUMBLE
Um, why am I here
FRANKLY, NOT A SINGLE COMPANY SAID A WORD OF COMPLAINT
I'VE ENDED OUR CONTRACTS WITH THIRTY LABELS
CLEAN SLATES
WHOMP!
TO THE DEGREE THAT YOU FEARED THEY WOULD BE
NOT ONE OF THEM WAS AGITATED

SLICE!
THEY ARE IN THE BUSINESS WORLD
BUILDING UP RELATIONSHIPS OF COMPLACENCY WITH NO RESPECT FOR THESE MEN,
THEY'VE SEEN WARS, RECESSIONS, AND HAVE SURVIVED
LETTING THINGS DEGENERATE INTO A SITUATION THAT COULD PRODUCE THESE KINDS OF RESULTS—
MATSUKOSHI IS ALSO TO BLAME.
WH—
WHAT IS IT YOU SAY YOU UNDERSTAND—
YOU PEOPLE WHO HAVE COME FROM OUTSIDE—
WHAT DO...

SORRY, BUT WE'RE THE ONES WHO HAVE MOTIVATION AND PASSION TOWARDS DEPARTMENT STORES.
THWACK!

CAW
CAW
FAINT
DRIP!
DROP!
INHALE
IF YOU'RE GOING TO SAY SOMETHING, NOW'S THE TIME!
YOU CAN'T BE SILENT WHEN YOU'RE TOLD SOMETHING SO AWFUL!
INAMURA-SAN HAS GONE PALE.

EH?! SHE STOPPED THERE?!
YOU CAN SAY WHAT YOU FEEL, YOU KNOW?!
ARE YOU DEAD?

KYSHUUU
KYSHUUU
KYSHUUU
WHATEVER YOUR THOUGHTS OR FEELINGS,
IF YOU STAY SILENT, IT'LL BECOME A DONE DEAL, YOU REALIZE?
IT'S THE SAME AS IF YOU DIDN'T THINK OR FEEL THEM AT ALL, RIGHT?
PITTAPAT
PITTAPAT
YOU HAVE TO ALLOW THEM TO SHOW!
OR ELSE IT'S THE SAME AS IF YOU'VE KILLED YOURSELF, RIGHT?!
DI—NG!
POU—R!

CRA-
WHILE YOU RUN HOME AND PUT ON YOUR LOLI-GOTH OUTFIT, AND FLEE INTO A FANTASY,
THE COMPANY WILL COLLAPSE THE FOLLOWING DAY?!

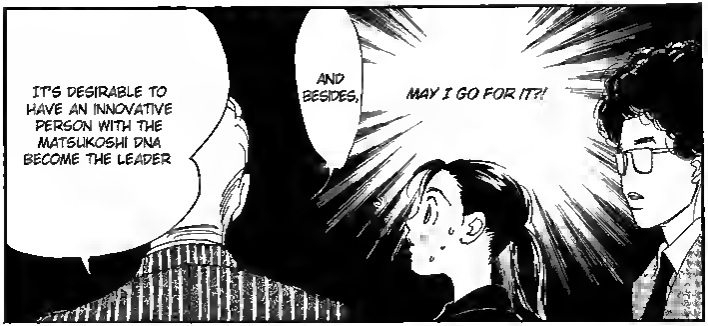
HUH?
TO BE TOLD THAT... BY THE LIKES OF YOU...
RIGHT!
EH?
IT'S NOT ...
not.

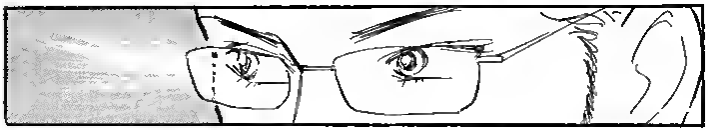
SHE'S ALIVE!
THE YOUNG EMPLOYEES ARE UNSATISFIED WITH UPPER MANAGEMENT SAYING, "WE DON'T HAVE TO SELL CLOTHES." WE ARE MAKING AN EFFORT.
WE'RE ALSO WORKING ON RESEARCHING ECHIZENYA, WHO IS HEADING FOR THE TOP OF LADIES' FASHION.
MAKING PLANS FOR AN INDIVIDUALITY CORNER THAT DOESN'T IMITATE OTHERS,
AND PROPERLY DECREASING OUR AMOUNT OF INVENTORY BY 5% EVERY YEAR!
WE'VE EVEN REDONE OUR STOCK, DECREASED OUR LOSSES, AND RAISED OUR PERFORMANCE PER SECTION!!

PLEASE DON'T THINK THAT THE PEOPLE OF MATSUKOSHI ARE ALL LIKE TAWARAYA-SAN!!
ROAR
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

GOOD JOB, INAMURA-SAN.
GOLD STAR
I LOVE YOU!
GRIND
GRIND
GLINT
!!!

I ELECTED YOU FOR THE MAIN BRANCH CHIEF OF MATSUKOSHI LADIES' FASHION'S REBRANDING.
Eh?
EEH?!!
YES!
AMANO.
BUT— WE
"HAVE NO REASON TO WANT TO MAKE MATSUKOSHI INTO ECHIZENYA."
RIGHT?
YES!
BOSS!


IT'S DESIRABLE TO HAVE AN INNOVATIVE PERSON WITH THE MATSUKOSHI DNA BECOME THE LEADER
AND BESIDES,
MAY I GO FOR IT?!



IN SHORT, YOU. YOU ARE THE MAIN BRANCH CHIEF OF MATSUKOSHI LADIES' FASHION'S REBRANDING